NORTHERN ISLANDER

$4.50

FEBRUARY 2024 LAST MONTH OF WINTER ?

PURE MICHIGAN = DISCOVER BEAVER ISLAND

WHAT'S SO SPECIAL ABOUT FEBRUARY ON BEAVER ISLAND?

GET THE SCOOP ON PAGE 7

BEAVER ISLAND COMMUNITY SCHOOL

EDUCATION CORNER: EVERY MONTH LET'S LEARN ABOUT WHAT IS HAPPENING AT OUR SCHOOL FROM OUR FACULTY AND STUDENTS

INTERVIEW WITH PRINCIPAL WIL ON THE FACTS REGARDING THE MILLAGE

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ON PAGE 11

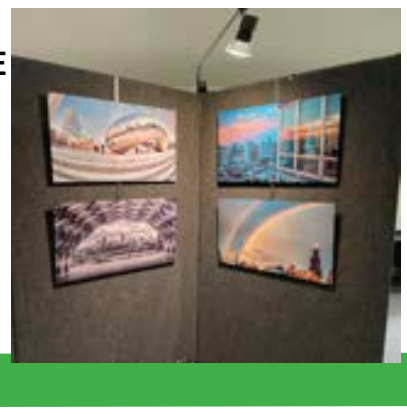
EXPERIENCE HOW OUR STUDENTS ARE EMBRACING JOURNALISM

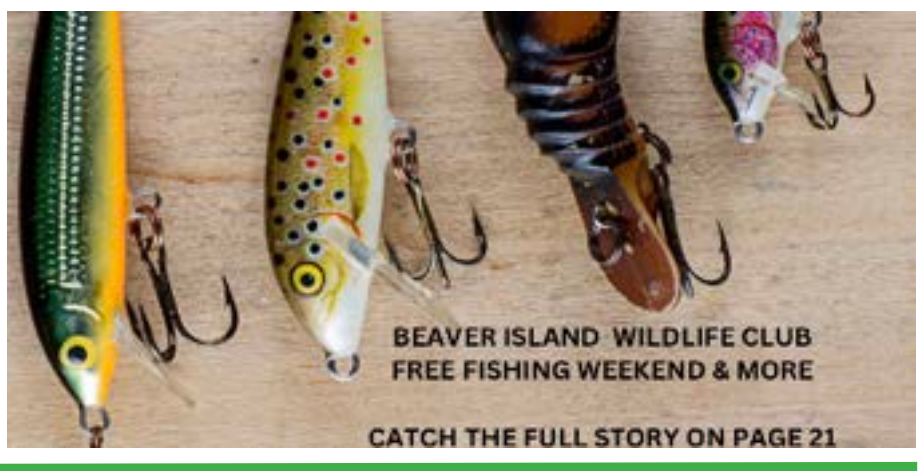
INTRODUCING NEW FACULTY ON PAGE 12

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF THE BEAVER ISLAND RURAL HEALTH CENTER
READ THE FULL STORY ON PAGE 13

CALL FOR ARTISTS- SUBMIT UP TO 3 PHOTOS FOR "EVERYONE'S AN ARTIST" AT THE MUSEUM WEEK ART SHOW. SUBMISSIONS ARE DUE ON 2/15. ALL PROCEEDS WILL BENEFIT THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

CONTACT LOIS STIPP - Calstipp1@aol.com





BEAVER ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Keeping Island History Alive
Established 1957

NORTHERN ISLANDER

is proudly owned and published by the
Beaver Island Historical Society

Board President	Angela LeFevre-Welke
Executive Director	Lori Taylor-Blitz
Executive Editor	George Broder
Editor/Advertising	Amy Marschner
Circulation Manager	Megan Tuohy Anderson

Phone: 231-448-2254 **Email: editor@beaverislandhistory.org** **Mail: PO Box 295, Beaver Island, MI 49782**

After a few mild winter months, the snow arrived and sure did make a statement. Welcome to Michigan! Limited flights have kept islanders here and while the frigid tempatures kept us busy both shoveling and cold, we always make the best of it. In fact, it sure did not deter our community from keeping the island progressing forward and socially rewarded with plenty of activities for all ages. We hope you enjoy our stories and pictures of all the wonderful events that transpired in January as well as the upcoming activies planned for February. As always, we encourage your feedback and ideas as it is our sole purpose to serve, entertain and inform our audience.

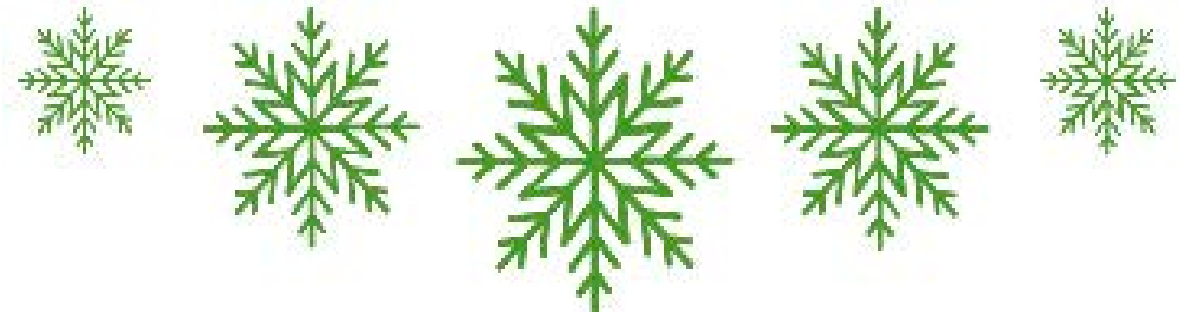
As we approach our year anniversary of acquiring the Nothern Islander, we have gathered plenty of data and feedback that will help us continue to enhance the experience of the Northern Islander. It has been truly a year of learning both what works and what doesn't. The Beaver Island Historical Society is committed to the success of Preserving and Sharing the Unique History of Beaver Island. We have grand plans for our future but we can't do it alone. We appreciate your continued support and contributions, as you all play a signficant role propelling this publication forward.

A few highlights as we enter 2024:

- Continuing to engagae and empower local journalism/story-telling through the lens of island history and culture
- Igniting passion in our youth to embrace and fuel their future potential
- Educating our subscribers and visitors on the rich history of Beaver Island
- Reorganizing our content strategy to align with our readers needs and wants
- Highlighting the amazingly unique community that is infused in Island DNA
- Marketing our local small business community with their outstanding support to our collective Island needs
- Reporting timely local relevant news, announcements and community events
- Collaboration with all key stakeholders to mainstream communications
- Approaching the content in a more visually arresting and innovative delivery

Please reach out if you have suggestions and or ideas for the future issues of the Northern Islander. Enjoy your February and we look forward to sharing our stories and to see you all on the island. Stop in and say "hello".
Kind Regards,

Amy Marschner
Editor-Creative Director
Northern Islander



NORTHERN ISLANDER
IT WAS A MONUMENTAL YEAR FOR THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY ACQUIRING BOTH THE NORTHERN ISLANDER AND BEAVER BEACON. WE HAVE ENJOYED BRINGING THE RICH CULTURE AND HISTORY OF THE ISLAND TO BOTH SUBSCRIBERS AND VISITORS ALIKE.
AS WE MOVE INTO THE NEW YEAR, WE WOULD LIKE TO TAKE A MOMENT TO THANK OUR CURRENT AND PAST ADVERTISING PARTNERS AS WITHOUT YOUR KIND SUPPORT THE NEWSPAPER WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE. THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO ARE STILL WITH US AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO OUR SEASONAL PARTNERS TO ONCE AGAIN JOIN THE NORTHERN ISLANDER FAMILY.

Print Shop Perspective

Since 1957, The Beaver Island Historical Society has been working to keep Beaver Island History Alive! We advance this goal through a mission of preserving and sharing the unique history of Beaver Island and the Archipelago.

February marks the one-year anniversary of the Beaver Island Historical Society making the bold decision to take action to advance our mission of Preserving & Sharing the Unique History of Beaver Island and the Archipelago by stepping up and purchasing the Northern Islander and Beaver Beacon. Our concept was the Northern Islander shall be an Island focused newspaper written by the community. February and March were mainly planning months as we laid out and updated the Northern Islander Newspaper for our community and released the inaugural issue in April. We encountered a few hiccups but overall - a good first year and have nearly tripled our subscribers! None of this would be possible without your support!

I would like to begin by thanking and recognizing the Beaver Island Community School. It is critical for the community to recognize and make space at the table for our youth to participate and contribute. Thank you Olive Ledbetter and Zia Duffing for being our student reporters! Your insight is amazing and thank you Wil Cwikiel for contributing stories about the School and supporting our student writers. Thank you to our Township Supervisors, Bobbi Welke and Maria Del Pra for collaborating monthly and submitting government updates for your island constituents. A special thank you to our regular column contributors: Rach Becker - *Tried and True Family Recipes*, Michelle LaFreniere - *Stories From the Front Porch,* Glen Felixson - Storytelling from Captain Glen, Sue Oole and Connie Wojan for their contributions.

Our paper would not be complete without the regular contributions from our Island Organizations. Thank you to the Library, Wildlife Club, Irish Fest, BIC Center, Rural Health Center, Beaver Island Associations, Tara's Meadow and the Elks. The organizations are the cornerstones of our Community and make each day on the Island joyful and sustainable.

Thank you to all of our advertisers, without your support, the production of this newspaper would not move forward. As readers of this publication, we hope you find the listing of Northern Islander Advertisers to be helpful and give them thoughful consideration as you seek out contractors, make dinner plans or look for specialized services! Thank you to C3F for being thoughtful and sharing philanthropic summaries of funding awarded to Beaver Island and beyond in Charlevoix County.

Most of all, thank you to my Staff and Board. Your dedication to providing relevant and entertaining content is off the charts and I am looking forward to what the next year will bring! Thank you for the continued feedback and support for our publications.

Sincere Appreciation,
Lori Taylor-Blitz
Executive Director
Beaver Island Historical Society
Office: 231.448-2254

We would like to help the Beaver Island Historical Society in its mission of Keeping Island History alive by becoming members or renewing at the indicated level:
BEAVER ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Student/Senior $25.00 ___ Individual $35.00 ___ Couple $50.00 ___ Family $100.00 ___
Sustaining $250.00 ___ Benefactor $500.00 ___ Corporate $750.00 ___ Other $___
Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____
Email Address: _____
Membership Year: January 1- December 31
Beaver Island Historical Society, P.O. Box 263, Beaver Island, MI 49782 (231-448-2254

Meet Cheryl Kern

Cheryl just moved to Beaver Island from southwest Michigan in July and began her job as Administrative Assistant for the Historical Society the next day. Cheryl and her husband Rob have 3 adult children and three grandchildren. They currently reside with a dog, Baxter and two cats, Munchie and Tyson.

Cheryl was born in Pennsylvania. Her family moved to Indiana when she was a child. She majored in Biology (botany and zoology) and Art at Western Michigan University. She worked as a dog trainer, delivery truck driver, and case manager for the Disabled of Elkhart County. She also owned several antique booths and an antique store. Cheryl also volunteered for Kellogg Biological Station, her church and was a 4H leader.

Besides working for the Historical Society Cheryl is involved at Beaver Island Christian Church and enjoys art and craft projects. She loves the biodiversity that the island offers as well as the rich history and the people. There really isn't anything that she doesn't like about Beaver Island.

TOWNSHIP NEWS

ST JAMES TOWNSHIP PUBLIC NOTICE
ESTABLISHMENT OF EARLY VOTING SITE
By Bobbi Welke

To All Qualified Electors in St James Township:
Notice is hereby given under authority granted in Public Act 81 of 2023, that the location of the early voting site for all federal and statewide election dates occur at the address noted below, which is in Charlevoix.

301 State Street, Charlevoix, MI 49720

In regard to the Presidential Primary Election scheduled for February 27, 2024, all qualified electors in St James Township have the right to mark a ballot and deposit the ballot in a tabulator at this location during the early voting dates, which for the 2024 Presidential Primary are:

- February 17 through 25
- The voting site is open 8:30 am to 4:30 pm each day.

PEAINE TOWNSHIP PUBLIC NOTICE
ESTABLISHMENT OF EARLY VOTING SITE
By Maria Dal Pra

To All Qualified Electors in Peaine Township:
Notice is hereby given under authority granted in Public Act 81 of 2023, that the location of the early voting site for all federal and statewide election dates will be the following..

301 State Street, Charlevoix, MI 49720

A site may also serve as an early voting site for additional election dates if approved by the Peaine Township Board All qualified electors in Peaine Township have the right to mark a ballot and deposit the ballot in a tabulator beginning the second Saturday before an election and ending the Sunday before the election, and any additional days prior to the second Saturday before an election that the Peaine Township Board designates.

Early voting will be available at the early voting sites for the following hours:

- Early Voting Days are the second Saturday through the Sunday prior to all Federal or Statewide Election.
- The hours are 8:30am-4:30pm each day.

For the 2024 Presidential Primary, the dates for early voting are:

- February 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th

THE JOINT PLANNING COMMISSIONS OF ST. JAMES TOWNSHIP AND PEAINE TOWNSHIP ARE EXCITED TO ANNOUNCE THEY HAVE SUCCESSFULLY FINALIZED A REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP) TO ADVANCE THE UPDATING OF THE ZONING ORDINANCES ON THE ISLAND. THIS MARKS A SIGNIFICANT STEP FORWARD IN POSITIVELY SHAPING THE FUTURE OF BEAVER ISLAND, HERALDING A NEW ERA OF DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY GROWTH.
RFP DUE DATE 2/29
For more details visit the township websites

SUPER BOWL SUNDAY PARTY
2/11
THE WILD STRAWBERRY CAFE
ANNOUNCES THE
SUPERBOWLOFCHILIEXPIALADOCIOUS!
GRAB A DRINK AND VOTE ON THE BEST CHILI
GRAND PRIZE FOR THE WINNING SUBMISSION
*WATCH OUR SOCIAL MEDIA FOR FINAL DETAILS

BEAVER ISLAND
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Announces New Winter Events At The Print Shop Museum

BINGO NIGHT

CABARET NIGHT

START TIME 6:30 PM

FEBRUARY 23 FEBRUARY 24

MARCH 22 MARCH 23

APRIL 26 APRIL 27

JOIN US FOR SOME FUN!

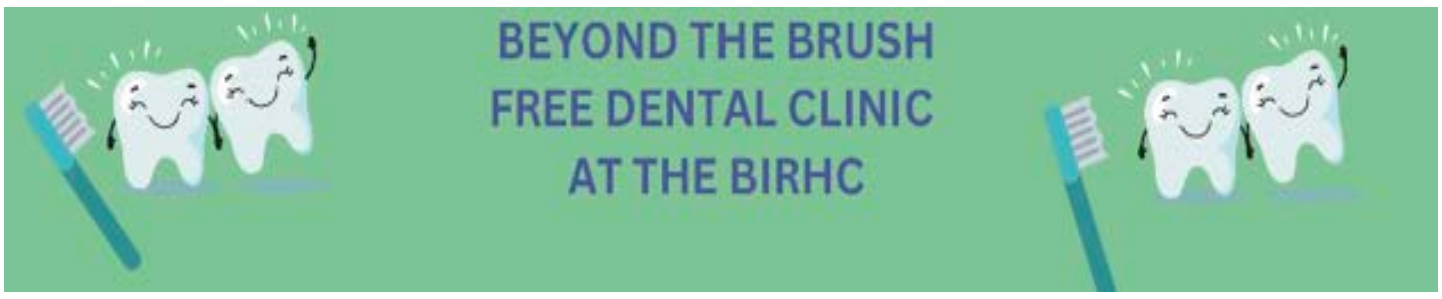
km

contractors

With over 30 years of experience, KM Contractors specializes in custom homes, commercial construction, dock installation & repairs, and steel & rock seawalls. Based on Beaver Island and serving all of Northern Michigan.

Ernest Martin • 231.499.0136 • kmcontractorsllc@gmail.com • kmcontractors.net

ELKS CARE-ELKS SHARE



The Beaver Island Elks Lodge #2886 is pleased to announce the return of the Free Dental Clinic in February for the Beaver Island Community of Children! Funding was made possible by the Elks National Foundation, Swiat Family Foundation, and Beaver Island Rural Health Center.

Cavities, also known as tooth decay, is one of the most common chronic disease of childhood in the United States. Untreated cavities can cause pain and infections that may lead to problems with eating, speaking, playing and learning. (According to "Centers for Disease Control and Prevention).

The good news is that cavities are preventable, and the Beaver Island Rural Health Center in conjunction with Dental Clinics North will be providing free dental exams, x-rays and cleanings for all the students at the Beaver Island Community School. This investment in the community is provided by the Good Samaritan Fund and the Beaver Island Elks Lodge (Post #2886). Total grant funds to be expended for the clinic are capped at $7,000.

CLINIC DATES: February 22/23

LOCATION: Beaver Island Rural Health Center
37304 King's Highway
Beaver Island, MI 49782

***Packets with further details are available for pick-up at the BICS**

COMING SOON
Beaver Island Elks #2886 Social Room
The Beaver Island Elks #2886 has officially secured a building and will soon be opening a place of their own. The exact day the Elks Social room will open is still to be determined, but likely to be by early April. The Lodge leased the former Gillespies Realty building at 26205 Main Street. The Social Room will only be open to members and their guests. To find out more information about joining the Elks or volunteering please contact any Elks member
Location: 26205 Main Street
Elks

ELKS CARE
ELKS SHARE

LODGE #2886
MEETS 2ND THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH
TIME: 6:30 PM
PEAINE TOWNSHIP HALL
36825 KING'S HIGHWAY

VISITING ELKS ARE WELCOME!

SERVING THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

OUR YOUTH: ANNUAL DENTAL CLINIC, POWER BOOKBAGS, AND HOOP SHOOT!

SUPPORTING QUALITY OF LIFE NEEDS FOR OUR SENIOR CITIZENS AND VETERAN COMMUNITY

DONATIONS ARE WELCOMED

EXALTED RULER
LORI TAYLOR-BLITZ
(906) 361-2031

Ed Wojan Realty

"Your ***Key*** to Beaver Island"

- Selling Beaver Island Real Estate Since 1976
- Invaluable Island Knowledge
- Realtor Emeritus of National Association of Realtors
- 5th Generation Island Resident
- Drawing Director Wojan/Cashman Beaver Island Map
- An expert at arranging financing
- Reputation for detail and accurate closings

Edward B. Wojan — Broker
231-313-8682 cell
Vicki L. Smith—Sales Associate
253-720-5692
26300 Back Highway P.O. Box 86
Beaver Island, MI 49782
www.edwojanrealty.com
info@edwojanrealty.com
231-448-2711 Office

REALTOR® MLS

WHAT'S SO SPECIAL ABOUT FEBRUARY ON THE ISLAND?

By Amy Marschner

Many of our islanders have retreated back to the mainland to await better weather before heading back to paradise. However, we have literally dozens of reasons to book a flight on Fresh Air and or Island Airways to visit your favorite Island. Below are some highlights of the fun that the Beaver Island Community is bringing your way for February. Our goal is to provide activities for all ages that will allow endless memories and smiles. Regardless of the weather, we have something for everyone. So pack accordingly, Discover Beaver Island and join us for "Fun February".

FUN FEBRUARY
WORSHIP
• Beaver Island Christian Church Worship every Sunday at 10am
• Holy Cross Sunday Mass every Sunday at 12:15pm
• Adult Faith Formation every Wednesday at 7pm @ the BICC
• Women's Bible Study every Thursday at 10am
ADULT ENTERTAINMENT
• Talking Threads every Tuesday at 9 am @ Peaine Township
• COA Bingo every Wednesday at 1 pm
• Euchre Night every Thursday at 7 pm at the Wild Strawberry
• Senior Vets Coffee and Donuts every Friday at 9 am @ BIC
• BIHS Bingo on Friday, February 23 at 6:30 pm
• Adult movies every Saturday at 7 pm @ the BIC
• Book Club on February 14th at 3 pm @ BIDL
• Let's Get Quizzical Trivia Night at 6 pm on the 13th and 27th @ the BIC
GREAT FOOD
• All You Can Eat Pizza every Monday at the Shamrock at 5 pm
• Chinese-inspired Chef's Choice every Tuesday at the Shamrock
• Mexican-inspired Chef's Choice every Wednesday at the Shamrock starting at 1 pm
• Rotating daily specials at the Wild Strawberry Cafe
• Burger and Beer every Thursday at the Shamrock starting at 5 pm
• Thursday's Happy Hour @ the Wild Strawberry Cafe with discounted pints and small bites
• Friday night Cod & Saturday night Prime Rib at the Shamrock
• Sunday night hang-outs from 4-7 pm @ the Wild Strawberry Cafe (rotating dinner specials)
FAMILY TIME
• Maplewood Baptist vs- Beaver Island Community School on February 2 & 3
• Time for Art on February 7 at 5pm
• Valentines activities- watch the calendar for more details
• Free Fishing Weekend on February 17 & 18 and Fishing Tournament (weather permitting)
• Northern Light League Tournament at BICS February 23 & 24
• BIHS Cabaret Night on Saturday, February 24 @ 6:30pm
KIDS CORNER
• Lego Club every Friday after school @ BIDL
• Babies & Toddlers every Thursday at 9:30 am @ BIDL
• Story Hours with Maeve every Tuesday at 2:30 pm @ BIDL
• Library Pals monthly @ BIDL (2/14 @ 10:30 am)
• Kid's movies at the BIC every Saturday at 4 pm
EXERCISE
• Bingocize every Monday and Wednesday at 11 am
• Pickleball every Monday at 5:30 pm
• COA Cardio Drumming every Monday at 10 am
• Pickleball every Tuesday, Thursday & and Friday at 10 am
• Arthritis Foundation Exercise Program every Tuesday and Friday at 10:30 am
• COA Chair Yoga every Thursday at 11 am
• Senior Tai Chi every Thursday 10 or 11 am
For all the most up-to-date information visit: https://biccenter.org/calendar/

TALKING THREADS

By Amy Marschner

This group was formed in the mid 90's and while it has evolved over the years, it remains true to it's purpose. The forum is comprised of local islanders who have a talent and passion for all things "sewing". They meet every Tuesday at the Peaine Township hall from 9-11 am and also two Saturday's each month for a good old fashion "All Day Sew-A-thon".

The projects range from quilting, needle point, crocheting, knitting, sewing and any craft related activity. All are welcome to participate in enjoying your hobby/expertise alongside like-minded passionate folks. Last year some of the groups beautiful work could be found at Deb's Creation, the Art Bizaaar and the Quilt Show at the Beaver Island Studio. Stay tuned for the dates and if you feel the need to get your craft on, stop on by and join the fun!

TIME FOR ART

By Cindy Ricksgers

"Time for Art" is held on Wednesday evenings, from 5 -7pm in the theater of the Beaver Island Community Center. We start the classes in early fall and they continue until around the middle of May. It's a great way to fill a cold winter evening alongside great people who have a passion for art!

We offer a wide range of classes and activities, to appeal to many different age and skill levels. Now and then, the time slot is for "Open Studio." Then, rather than instruction, each participant simply brings a project to work on. It's possible to get advice and feedback from other class members, or simply enjoy working in the company of like-minded people. It's always exciting to see the level of talent that hides among the residents of Beaver Island! Most of the time though, a class is presented. Cindy Ricksgers, who oversees this program, often presents a lesson. As often as possible, we bring in "visiting artists" to share their knowledge and perspective.

In the past, we've offered various drawing classes, collage, paper-making, simple prints, and hand-built ceramics, among others. Lois Stipp shared her advanced knowledge of oil painting. Cheryl Podgorski introduced us to basket-making. Leila Freijy shared her enthusiasm for keeping an illustrated journal and inspired all of us to give it a try. One of our most well-received classes was "fairy doors," presented by Chris McKenna. Everyone had their own unique vision and means of developing their ideas. This is evident in the many finished "fairy doors" that have graced the front windowsills of the Community Center this winter!

WVBI- CATCH THE WAVES

By Greg Doig

WVBI, the island's community-run radio station, is upgrading its facilities and equipment to provide better service and coverage to the island and beyond. "We expect to complete our power upgrade this spring," says Kevin Boyle who is among the volunteers that run the station. "We've been delayed by supply chain issues and in getting data about the tower to finalize our directional antenna system," he added. The power increase from around 50 watts to 3,000 watts will provide radio service to all of the island and is likely to be heard at some locations on the mainland as well. The increase will come with a change in frequency from 100.1 to 91.9 Mhz.

Alongside the power increase the station is also building a new studio at the BIC Center. It is in part of the theater control room. "The end of the room that will be sectioned off for the studio was intended for a film projector for movies, but digital projection took over while the BIC Center was built, so it was never needed for that," says Boyle. "That space along with some old storage space is being combined for a professional studio that will have room for multiple guests and that will have a view of the stage to facilitate broadcast of performances there. We are excited about what we will can do with the new space," he said.

In the meantime, the station is adding new shows to its lineup. Among them are Heading for the Couch with Tom Herbert, Stardate, On Shifting Ground and the Cool Jazz Countdown. Heading for the Couch with Tom Herbert is a brand-new, islander produced show that explores movies available for streaming online. Listeners can listen to learn about plots and filmmaking for a guide to what's worth watching and what to skip. Tom awards lighthouses for his ratings with five being the best. The show is on Fridays at 10:30,1:30 and 5:30.

Stardate takes listeners on a celestial journey through the universe's wonders. It joins Mary Stewart's Storyteller's Night Sky as programs that help islanders and visitors learn more about the Emerald Isle's dark skies that will soon be home to Michigan's first Dark Sky Sanctuary. You can hear Stardate every day at 11:30 and 3:30 p.m. and weekdays at 3:30 and 7:30 a.m. On Shifting Ground joins WVBI's Saturday morning line-up of information shows at 7:00 a.m. Veteran reporter Ray Suarez dives into a current day topic each week with detailed interviews and reporting that is always interesting and enlightening. The Cool Jazz Countdown joins the Top Ten + Five and the Retro Album Chart Show in the station's Wednesday evening line-up of countdown programs. It covers the top ten jazz cuts for the week starting at 10:00 p.m. and leads into WVBI's Jazz Nightwatch, the station's overnight jazz show. "We think these are great additions to our lineup," says Dennis Winslow, a volunteer who helps program the station. "We look for interesting programs that fit well with our music format, but that provide things you just don't hear on most stations. Programs that mesh with island goals are important," he says. "Stardate is spot on for that, with the focus on dark skies. We plan to add a show called Birdnote in the next several months in synergy with the island's birding trail and activities," he added.

It's the Best Radio Station on the Planet
Like a box of chocolates; you never know what's next but it will be good.
LISTEN NOW
WVBI 100.1 FM

Winslow says that one of the station's most popular shows is its weekday Community Calendar Report heard at 9:00 a.m., noon, 3:00 and 6:00 p.m. It includes local, regional and state news and a rundown of upcoming meetings and events on the island. "Our surveys always show it is something folks look forward to," said Winslow. If you miss it on the air, the station also makes it available as a podcast on its website, where it also posts the script for each day's show. The event information is also available in the station's online Community Calendar at **calendar.wvbi.net.**

"We are always looking for input on what we are doing on the air," says Boyle. "We love to have listeners to participate by contributing their ideas and suggestions and hosting their shows. We are a community radio station, so community involvement is crucial in creating content that truly resonates with the island's residents." You can submit comments, suggestions and show ideas with an email to **programming@wvbi.net.**

News From the Beaver Island Community Center

We're keeping the home fires burning at the BIC Center this winter! In January we hosted over 75 programs covering a range of COA activities, exercise sessions, art classes, games, Trivia nights, movies, various meetings of local organizations, and more, in addition to keeping the airwaves filled with great music and informative local and world news via WVBI, your Beaver Island radio station.

In February there's plenty to take in at your local gathering space as well, with details to be found on the Community Calendar at biccenter.org. Here's an outline of what's on tap for the second month of the new year:

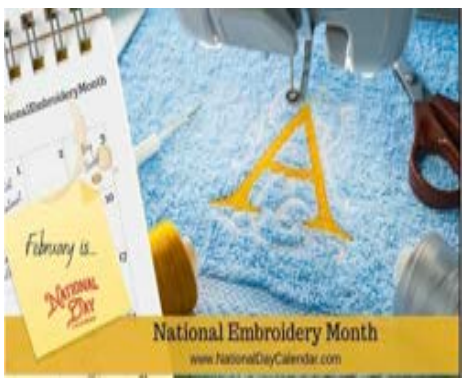
On the COA front, senior activities like Chair Yoga, Tai Chi, Bingo, and the newly-launched (and very popular!) Cardio Drumming, along with Senior+Vets Coffee and Doughnuts on Friday mornings; Arthritis Foundation Exercise programs twice a week and Pickleball four times a week; a smattering of meetings by St. James Township, local telcom advisory committee, BIA, and the newer Island Roots gardening club; Saturday double-feature movies; and an ongoing series of Adult Faith Formation teachings. We're likely to add some fresh offerings along the way this month, so stay tuned to our website and social media platforms for updates. See you at your Community Center!

WINTER FUN AT YOUR COMMUNITY CENTER!
LET'S GET QUIZZICAL:
THE BEAVER ISLAND TRIVIA GAME
FEBRUARY 13 & 27
COA BINGO - WEDNESDAYS AT 1PM
PICKLEBALL - T-TH-F FROM 10 TO NOON & MONDAY EVENINGS AT 5:30PM
COA BINGOCIZE - WED AT 11AM
COA CARDIO DRUMMING - MON AT 10AM
ARTHRITIS FOUNDATION EXERCISE
TUE & FRI AT 10:30AM
TIME FOR ART - WEDNESDAYS AT 5PM
SENIOR & VETS COFFEE & DONUTS
FRIDAYS AT 9AM
FOR MORE EVENT INFO TUNE IN TO WVBI'S COMMUNITY CALENDAR WEEKDAYS AT 9, NOON, 3 & 6 OR CHECK CALENDAR.WVBI.NET
Beaver Island Community Center
BICCENTER.ORG
Discover WINTER BEAVER ISLAND
BIC Center MOVIES
FEBRUARY
Mon – Fri 9-7 | Sat 11 -7
Open Times
CHICKEN RUN DAWN OF THE NUGGET
FEBRUARY 3 4:00 PM
Priscilla
FEBRUARY 3 AT 7PM
THE TIGER'S APPRENTICE
FEBRUARY 10 AT 4PM
SOCIETY of the SNOW
FEBRUARY 10 at 7PM
THE MARVELS
FEBRUARY 17 AT 4PM
SELF RELIANCE
FEBRUARY 17 AT 7PM
ORION AND THE DARK
FEBRUARY 24 AT 4PM
KILLERS OF THE FLOWER MOON
FEBRUARY 24 at 7PM

Beaver Island District Library

Nibwaakaawin

FEBRUARY IS.....



National Embroidery Month in February recognizes the talented stitchers who turn needle and thread into an art form.

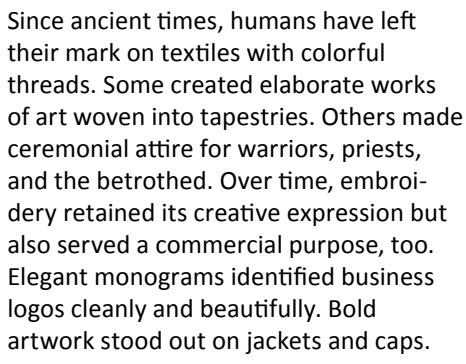
Since ancient times, humans have left their mark on textiles with colorful threads. Some created elaborate works of art woven into tapestries. Others made ceremonial attire for warriors, priests, and the betrothed. Over time, embroidery retained its creative expression but also served a commercial purpose, too. Elegant monograms identified business logos cleanly and beautifully. Bold artwork stood out on jackets and caps.

Celebrate National Embroidery Month by sharing your favorite embroidery items. If you embroider, then you are challenged to create a new piece to share. Find some new colorful threads and patterns to try and get creating!

You can also:

- Teach someone to embroider.
- Take up embroidery for the first time.
- Create a one-of-a-kind design.
- Give a gift of embroidery.
- Thank someone who embroiders as a hobby or professionally.

Pick up a book at the Library and learn to embroider.



Warm up the home and bring the family together in February during **National Bake for Family Fun Month!**

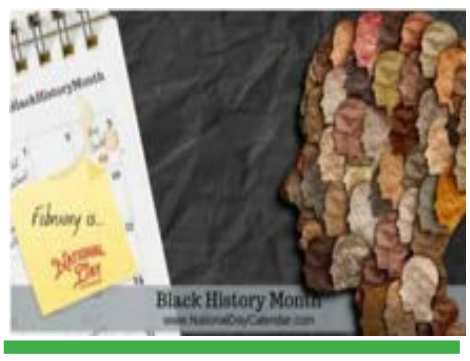
While having fun with the family, children will practice many skills. Older children will polish up their reading abilities. Following instructions becomes a practiced skill. And everyone will hone up on their chemistry and mathematics. They will have so much fun, they won't even realize they are learning!

After all the baking and cleaning up, settle down to savor the results. Enjoy all the family closeness and delicious rewards.

During **National Bird Feeding Month** in February, keep the bird feeders filled and your binoculars ready. The month is also an opportunity to learn more about birds and birding as a hobby. Bird watching and feeding have become a popular hobby. By providing basic shelter and seed, hobbyists watch from their windows or along trails. While it's a year-round hobby, watching during the depths of winter offers some of the most beautiful birding available. Not only do you see the birds against a white backdrop, but the variety of birds in winter climates will increase your interest.

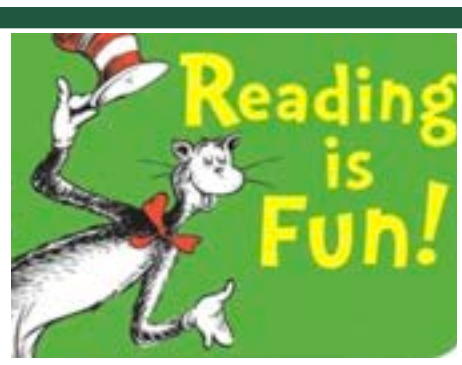
- Be sure to feed regularly and place your feeder away from predators.
- Set binoculars near the window for best viewing.
- Obtain a bird book for identifying new species. (We have a lot at the library)
- Consider planting native plants to provide habitat for birds.

National Black History Month, also known as National African American History Month, during February is a time for all Americans to celebrate the achievements of African Americans. In addition, the month recognizes the central role of Black Americans in history. BIDL has many books about and by African Americans. Stop by and pick one out to read this month.



National Library Lover's Month in February is dedicated to the people who love whole buildings devoted to reading, housing, organizing, categorizing, finding, studying, and otherwise loving books. Libraries provide so much more than a place for us to enjoy great novels or to discover amazing adventures and untold history. Yes, they help us ace our research papers and provide a quiet space to study.

However, they do so much more. Libraries provide educational entertainment for preschoolers. They offer activities, music, art, and friendship. They provide resources for researching family and community heritage. Libraries lend other media like movies and music. They offer digital resources for the entire community to use. Take advantage of all we have to offer at the BIDL. Check us out!



Story Hours continue on Tuesdays at 2:30 p.m. Homeschoolers and preschoolers meet with Maeve Green for a fun hour of books, activities and learning.

Babies and Toddlers Mix Up also continues every Thursday morning at 9:30 a.m. Maeve Green has set up a variety of sensory and play areas for toddlers and babies to enjoy and time for the parents to visit

Library Pals: 2/14 @ 10:30

Each month Beaver Island School students partner up with community members and spend time reading and chatting. BICS first through fourth graders participate, along with teachers Dr. Campbell and Mrs. Bedell. We love to hear the library abuzz with connection among generations! If you're interested in becoming a library pal, email maeve.island.library@gmail.com or call 231-448-

GetSetUp

Many folks gathered at the Library on Jan. 17th to get set up with the app GetSetUp, an online system offering thousands of classes across multiple categories just for seniors. Partnering with COA, a coffee and snack hour was held to help seniors get set up on their personal devices to access this program offered FREE through the state MDHHS in partnership with GetSetUp.. Another will be offered soon. Watch locally for details

LEGO CLUB

Lego Hours will take place every Friday after school. Please note that he Lego materials are always out if you can't make the scheduled time. Stop by and get creative!

COMING SOON! THE 2024 TOTAL ECLIPSE!

Mark your calendars- April 8th is the date of the Total Eclipse. There will not be another one across North America until 2045.

Beaver Island will be able to see approximately 87% of the totality. That means there will be only a thin fingernail of light exposed at the midpoint of the eclipse. The eclipse will begin at approximately 2 p.m. and last until approximately 4:30 p.m.

In preparation, there are several opportunities in which individuals can take part. First, GLOBE has a citizen science option asking folks, like you and I, to take some observations during the eclipse through their GLOBE app.

Second, Eclipsesoundscapes.org is offering various areas where individuals can collect information about what the wildlife is experiencing in an area. Start with the Apprentice Training. There you will learn about eclipses and receive a certificate. Next is the Observer role. There is online training for that role also and materials to help you make observations. The next level is the Data Collector role. The Library is applying for an AudioMoth. This device will record all sounds prior to, during and after the eclipse. The SD card will be sent to Eclipse Soundscapes for analysis. The final role is a Data Analyst following the submission of all the sound recordings.

The Library will hold some prior Eclipse events during March and early April. Plan to attend as we will have materials and help to get you set up in GLOBE or Eclipsesoundscapes.org.

The Library is planning events and viewing for April 8th. We have glasses (certified) for viewing and will have other options as well. We will have activities, crafts, food and more! Stay tuned!

School Operating Millage on February Ballot

Exclusive Interview with Superintendent Wil Cwikiel

The Northern Islander recently sat down with Wil Cwikiel, Superintendent-Principal of Beaver Island Community School, to talk about the upcoming school election. We asked him about all things millage and school finance. Our goal with this interview is to provide an educational and informative dialogue about a critical upcoming ballot. Let's face it, sometimes these topics can be misleading and confusing, so we are giving you the real truth.

NI: A February election date seems unusual. What's going on?

WC: Well, there's this thing called the presidential election every four years. Michigan voters go to the polls on Tuesday, February 27, 2024 to nominate presidential candidates for the Republican and Democratic parties. In addition to the presidential primary, all of Beaver Island's registered voters, regardless of party affiliation, will have the opportunity to vote on the renewal and restoration of Beaver Island Community School's operational millage.

NI: So, even if people don't plan to vote in either party's primary election, they can still go to the polls and vote in the school millage?

WC: Exactly. I urge everyone registered to vote in Peaine and St. James to exercise their right to vote on the school millage proposal, regardless of whether or not they plan on participating in the presidential nomination election.

NI: What is on the operating millage ballot?

WC: We are asking to renew and restore the same operating millage rate that we have been levying since 1994—15.7908 mills. By the way, that rate is ***lower than every other school district in Charlevoix County***. In fact, most schools across Michigan collect the full 18 mills on non-homestead properties allowed by state law.

NI: That's pretty amazing. The same rate for the past 30 years…and the ***lowest school tax rate in Charlevoix County.*** Let's break it down here. What do you mean by homestead properties and renewal and restoration?

WC: Unfortunately, due to state law, the ballot language is a bit more complicated than it needs to be. Let's talk about homestead and non-homestead first. The passage of Proposal A in 1994 revamped Michigan's local property taxes. As a result, all homestead properties pay 6 mills in school tax that goes to the State of Michigan. Non-homestead properties (e.g. second homes, vacant land, and some business properties) are levied up to 18 mills to pay for operating costs. School bonds for buildings or capital improvements are levied on both homestead and non-homestead properties, but are not part of the proposal this year.

NI: How important is the non-homestead operating millage?

WC: The operating millage is absolutely essential to Beaver Island Community School. Since 1994, the 15.7908 millage on non-homestead property has generated approximately 70% of the district's operating funds each year. The remainder of our operating revenues comes from the Char-Em ISD, and State and Federal agencies. In addition, we work hard to supplement this funding from other sources such as private contributions, foundation grants, and additional funds from the State of Michigan. If we don't collect this locally, the State will NOT make the revenue up for us.

NI: So, you paid for the new gym floor and ceiling—by bringing in other funds to add to the operating millage? That's incrediible! Can you explain in more detail?

WC: Exactly. Beaver Island and the other "island" schools lobbied the legislature for additional funds during last year's state budget negotiations. Given that the additional dollars were from a one-time pot of money, we wanted to use them for a long-term investment that would benefit the entire community for many decades. Using those additional one-time only dollars to renovate the gym was at the top of the list.

NI: By the way, the floor looks amazing and I heard the Islander athletes really love the new playing surface. Back to the ballot language. Please explain this concept of renewal and restoration.

WC: To explain this, we need to step into the "way-back" machine and time-travel back to 1978 when several provisions were added to Michigan's Constitution in what is referred to as the "Headlee Amendments." Without getting too far into the weeds, the Headlee Amendment statutorily limits the rate at which actual revenues grow based on a formula that includes the previous year's taxable values, an inflation rate multiplier, and the current year's taxable values. As a result, depending on local economic conditions, when a local district renews their millage, they sometimes need to ask voters to restore the money that was "rolled back" by the Headlee Amendment. Although it's truly a restoration to our baseline millage amount, in the ballot language we also have to call it an increase.

NI: Is that why the language on the ballot says that the 15.7908 is a renewal of the millage that will expire in 2024 and an increase in order to restore the millage lost by the Headlee Amendment?

WC: Exactly. There are three main points to remember. First, this is a renewal and restoration to 15.7908 mills. Second, we are asking for the same millage that we've been collecting for 30 years. And third, this is the lowest amount levied by any school district in Charlevoix County.

NI: Wil, is there anything else you'd like to mention?

WC: I'd like to say how much I appreciate the support by the Beaver Island community. Day in and day out our students, faculty, and staff feel the love provided by this community. The operating millage is what pays our teachers, classroom aides, and support staff. The millage generates the money to keep the lights on and the doors open. For over 100 years there has been a school serving the community from this same location. We could not have done it without the great support of Beaver Island's voters for more than a century.

Polls are Open from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm on February 27, 2024
Voting takes place at Peaine Township Hall and St. James Township Hall.
For absentee ballots or information regarding early voting options, contact your Township Clerk.
Peaine Township: Carla Martin (231) 448-3540
St. James Township: Julie Gillespie (231) 448-2761

EDUCATION CORNER: EVERY MONTH LET'S LEARN ABOUT WHAT IS HAPPENING AT OUR SCHOOL FROM OUR FACULTY AND STUDENTS

BICS WELCOMES NEW TEACHER: MR. DAVID VANDEVENTER

By Olive Ledbetter & Zia Duffing

Mr. David VanDeventer, or "Mr. Van", as we call him, has taught here at Beaver Island Community School since late last school year, as a substitute teacher. At the start of this year, he became a full-time teacher as the secondary English and Yearbook teacher.

Mr. Van grew up in a small town called Bloomington in southern Indiana. As a student, school was not the most enjoyable part of his day. He states that his teachers helped him see why he needed to learn and helped him see the good things about school. Mr. Van earned his undergraduate degree at Indiana University in Sociology and Applied Behavior Analysis. Currently, Mr. Van is working on a second master's degree in teaching at Northern Michigan University.

Mr. VanDeventer says before he came to BICS, he was a board-certified behavior analyst, and worked with people with autism and developmental disabilities. In his former career, he worked one-on-one or in small groups to teach his students everyday life activities such as cooking and cleaning.

After working as a behavior analyst, Mr. Van came to Beaver Island. Since his dad and stepmom own the Emerald Isle Inn, he was already familiar with the Island. After applying as a full-time teacher, Mr. Van became the secondary English and Yearbook teacher. He says he has always loved reading, but disliked English growing up. He hopes to make English more enjoyable for his students, so they can grow up to love it.

Mr. Van states that he loves the community here on Beaver Island. He says since it is so small, everyone can get to know and help each other. He also appreciates that our Community Center puts on so many events, and loves to participate in them.

As a downside, he says, to live in such a small place, is that false rumors can spread quickly, leading confusion. That aside, overall he loves this community.

As hobbies, Mr. VanDeventer likes to hike and take pictures of nature. He used to go Geocaching, traveling to many different locations to do so. He has been to Canada, Jamaica, Grand Cayman, and Belize. He says likes Canada the best because it's not too hot, it's a beautiful place, and it is very clean. Mr. Van also likes to learn and loves helping others do the same. Mr. Van is a huge Harry Potter fan, he spends time with his dogs and watches Netflix.

In conclusion, Mr. David VanDeventer is a great addition to our school and community here on Beaver Island. He is a great teacher, trying to make his class fun and engaging for his students. A student of his, Ethan Kubesh, states, "One thing I like about him is that he stays organized. He studies about being a good teacher and keeps people in line. If I need help, he helps me with the questions and I only have to write short sentences sometimes. Overall, Mr.Van is a really chill teacher."

BEAVER ISLAND RURAL HEALTH CENTER

FEBRUARY 2024

Seven things studies suggest to do for your heart this month...

1. Get moving. Everyday. It's cheap and easy!

2. Spend time with your pet. Or get one!

3. Eat chocolate. Really. Dark is best, but all are good.

4. Have a laugh. It reduces blood pressure.

5. Eat healthier—and eat breakfast. It should be more than 5% of your daily calories.

6. Get good shuteye. 7 - 8 hours. Poor sleep leads to 71% higher risk of ischemic heart disease and 45% higher risk of stroke.

7. Manage stress! Relax your mind and body with yoga, meditation, a good book or even a warm bath.

Join in National Wear Red Day on Friday, February 2, 2024 and rock your red to raise awareness of heart disease and stroke.

BI children's Dental Health Clinic

February 22 & 23, 2024

The Beaver Island Elks Lodge #2886, the Beaver Island Rural Health Center, the Swiat Foundation, the Beaver Island Community School and Dental Clinics North bring the 3rd Annual BI Children's Dental Health Clinic to Beaver Island!

Participants will receive dental exams and dental health assessments, cleanings, x-rays and sealant or fluoride treatments as needed.

All school-age Island children are encouraged to participate. Enrollment materials are available at the BICS 231-448-2744 or by calling the BIRHC at 231-448-2275.

Cancer affects everyone.

- There are more than 100 types of cancer.
- Roughly 2 million Americans were diagnosed with cancer in 2023.
- Over 600,000 died from their disease.
- More than 18 million are living with it.
- Research shows that more than 40 percent of these cases and nearly half of the deaths can be attributed to preventable causes – smoking, excess body weight, physical inactivity, and excessive exposure to the sun, among others.
- Screening and early detection are key to prevention, too.
- Talk to your healthcare provider about available screenings for the top five most common cancers:
  1) Lung 2) Breast
  3) Rectum & Colon
  4) Stomach & 5) Prostate

Cancer Prevention Action Week Is Feb 19 - 25, 2024!

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF THE BEAVER ISLAND RURAL HEALTH CENTER BUILDING

By Connie Wojan, BIRHC Board Secretary

The story of how BIRHC was able to upgrade from a cramped, 2000 square foot building constructed in the early 1950's, to the modern, 8000 square foot facility it has occupied since 2004, is a saga of what team work can accomplish. Community minded BIRHC Board members, businessmen and other volunteers contributed an amazing variety of skills and experience to make possible the funding and construction of the beautiful, 1.3 million dollar Health Center that serves Beaver Island today. It was a journey marked by bumps in the road and setbacks which the volunteers did not let deter them in their pursuit of a piece of infrastructure they knew was important to Beaver Island's growing economy and quality of life.

How we got the money: The need for a dramatically larger clinic was identified through the work of the Beaver Island Rural Health Center Task Force, an 18 member volunteer group led by B J Wyckoff, RN. After two years of research the group issued its report in 2000. About the same time businessman Bill McDonough and mayor of Mackinac Island, Margaret Dowd, wrote a letter to the State of Michigan making the case for funding new health care facilities on both islands. That letter along with the support of State Senator Phil Hoffman, then chair of the Michigan Senate Finance Committee, resulted in 3.5 million dollars being earmarked by the state legislature.

When the appropriation got to his desk, then-Governor John Engler cut the funding for Beaver Island, awarding all 3.5 million to Mackinac Island. Fortunately for Beaver Island, Bill McDonough was a good friend of then-Director of the Michigan Department of Community Health, Jim Haveman, who was out of the country at the time and unaware of the veto. Upon his return and after talking with Bill, Director Haveman met with Governor Engler and convinced him to award Beaver Island 1.5 million from tobacco settlement money. Thus the first setback to the dream of a new health center was overcome. To this day, Jim Haveman advises the BIRHC Board on maintaining good relations with Lansing, an invaluable gift.

How we got the land: While the State grant, if carefully managed, was sufficient to construct the new clinic, it was not enough to pay for the land on which to build it. BIRHC Board member Pete LoDico was charged with finding a suitable piece of property. Pete learned of land for sale at the corner of Kings Highway and Carlisle Road. He researched the owner's name and asked Bill McDonough if he knew who Jeff and Nancy Traudt were. The answer was, "yes." Bill then approached realtor Ed Wojan.

The land in question was owned jointly by two related families: the Jeff and Nancy Traudts and the Harry Gills. It consisted of 2 large pieces that ran from Kings Highway all the way to the harbor. Ed Wojan agreed to visit the families in Ohio along with Bill. With incredible generosity the Traudts and Gills agreed to donate a five acre section valued at $200,000 along Kings Highway. This was great news. However, the process of carving out five acres from those jointly owned pieces would entail a year's work involving joint owners deeding property to each other, new legal descriptions, surveying, zoning changes and land division approvals. Despite the huge effort involved, Ed donated his services to make the transfer happen. He paid significant transfer expenses out of his own pocket and convinced the title and surveying companies involved to waive their fees. As part of the deal, Jim Wojan built a road for the Traudts to access their remaining harbor frontage at no charge. In the end the Health Center secured enough land to accommodate a clinic double the size of the current structure at zero cost. Once again collaboration and the generosity of community-minded people surmounted a big obstacle.

Photo Credits for all pictures for the Health Center: Jeff Cashman

Who designed, built and managed the construction project?

When it was certain we had the land and the money to move forward the Board established a construction committee. Board member Don Spencer, who had a long career in construction management, agreed to be our project manager. Don's first order of business was to secure a private donation for a sizing study to determine how large the building should be. Next he led the committee's search for a competent architectural firm. Hobbs and Black of Ann Arbor, Michigan was chosen. With Don's constant guidance nearly a year was spent designing the facility. This process began with sit-downs with the center's staff and an outside transition manager to determine the most functional floor plan. The Board made many important decisions aided by Don's expertise. When the design was complete, bids were let and Beaver Gems was selected. Ground was broken on April 27, 2003.

Don's memories of his months overseeing the project are as follows:

"In Beaver Gems, owned by Robert Gillespie and his crew leader, Kevin McDonough, we found a partner committed to constructing a sound Health Center, as designed by our architects, at or under the bid price. Beaver Gems wanted our community to be proud of the new building. To that end, our Construction Committee worked with Beaver Gems to develop a one year plan to complete the Health Center. The plan broke down into weekly milestones of various construction activities, material needs, manpower requirements by skills, equipment requirements and cash payments etc.

After construction began, weekly Friday afternoon meetings were initiated. Progress was reviewed, solutions to problems (if any) devised, and requests for payments for milestones submitted. As a consequence of the performance of our contractor, his employees and the subcontractors (many from the Island), not only was a fine job done, but the project came in under budget."

On January 30, 2004, the project was completed three months early as well as under budget. This was a rare feat to pull off anywhere, much less on Beaver Island! Also critical to this achievement were Don's knowledge and many hours of planning and monitoring. Paying someone else for Don's services would have been extremely costly.

The saga just described includes only the highlights of a long, complicated process made successful by many not mentioned by name above. All BIRHC board members served without compensation. Every member serving at that time donated a huge amount of time. All deserve the community's thanks. I urge all who use the Health Center to pause as they enter the vestibule and read the names on the plaques displayed there. Some are no longer with us but the fruit of their labors remains.

Soon to follow in the Northern Islander:
Learn how the BIRHC Board developed a plan to fund the increased costs of operating the much larger new building.

BIDL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you to Kim Mitchell

Kim Mitchell is leaving the Beaver Island District Library Board. Kim and her family moved here from the Ann Arbor area in 2013. With a degree in Early Childhood Education and Children's Literature, she began a weekly playgroup that met at the Gregg Fellowship Center. She also worked on Story Hours at the Library. Kim joined the board in 2014 and has taken on many roles during her tenure, including her most recent position as Treasurer. She has always been the first to volunteer in efforts to organize events, write thank-you notes and more. We will miss her smiling face at our board meetings and events. Thank you, Kim, for your many years of service to the community as a member of the Library Board.

BIDL Board welcomes new members to replace retiring or resigning board members.

Denny Rahilly, of St. James Township, will join the board filling the seat vacated by Kim Mitchell. "Libraries are vital to a healthy community. I have always believed this. From my earliest memories to the current day, Libraries are spaces that provide stimulation and quiet places, increasingly valuable in this chaotic world. Before moving to the Island 3 years ago I was a library employee, a friend of the library board member and the owner of a used bookstore. I hope to bring my passion for books and the search for knowledge in general to the Beaver Island Library board. The library is wonderful. The staff is dedicated. The public is fortunate to have such a beautiful resource."

Cari Ledbetter, of Peaine Township, will join the board replacing Erin Martin who resigned this fall. Cari will also serve as Interim Treasurer.

Hi all, I'm Cari Ledbetter, an island resident since summer of 2021. I live in Peaine Township with my family, Herb, Olive, Alice (we also have a mainland, college-aged daughter, Ella), 2 dogs, Ivy and Rupert, and 2 cats, Kirk and Luanne. With a MS degree from MSU in pharmacology/toxicology, my days are spent navigating the corporate jungle of the animal health industry (i.e., I design clinical studies to meet global regulatory requirements to get new vaccines for dogs, cats, pigs, etc. to market all over the world). As a closet book-worm and resourceful woman, I capitalize on my library membership to save money while taking my mind on many gallivanting adventures through reading. I grew up as an Army brat so was raised understanding the importance of community and service. I hope to instill in my children this same love of books, knowledge, community and service. I look forward to serving on the Beaver Island District board as my next story of "Island Resident" begins to unfold.

Here at Charlevoix Auto, LLC, it is our mission to be the automotive home of drivers in the Charlevoix, MI area. We provide a vast selection of new and used vehicles, exceptional car care and customer service with a smile!

06684 US-31 S, Charlevoix, MI 49720

STORIES FROM THE FRONT PORCH- MEET DANIEL

By Michelle LaFreniere

Daniel McDonough is probably the most inspirational person on Beaver Island. If you don't know him, you should. Daniel is family, so I've known him all of his 39 years. He was a favorite of my children. His Grandparents, Wini and Lawrence McDonough were my Great Aunt and Uncle. I first really got to know Dan when he was still in High School. I was taking the Medical First Responders class. Dan was my partner. I wasn't sure he was going to be able to do everything required of us. Dan has been in a wheelchair most of his life. I need not have worried. AT ALL. When it was our turn to practice and demonstrate CPR, he hopped out of that chair and outdid us all. Apparently he has been driven to excel his entire life.

I was able to visit with Dan just after the new year in his home. What an amazing space he has. Filled to the brim, yet extremely organized and tidy with all the material things that make him happy and push him forward in his quest for knowledge.

Dan loves Japan. Everything about it. The anime, the superheroes, the country and especially its people and their language. He began his love somewhere between his 6th and 8th birthdays with the anime cartoons Double Dragon, Tekkaman Blade and Super Sentai (The Power Rangers before they were Power Rangers basically.) Another favorite was Kamen Rider. In High School he spent time refining his drawing and art skills. I was always amazed at his skill. He says that he doesn't do much drawing anymore, instead he now focuses on the language. He still enjoys the shows and uses them to enhance his study of that. He began learning Japanese because he wanted to set the comics he was drawing in Japan. He quickly realized that this was something he loved and could excel at.

His Maternal Grandma, the late Sandy Kilmartin, enjoyed watching these shows with him and encouraged him to continue. In Kamen Rider Kabuto, one of the characters speaks with a confidence that Dan hopes to emulate. He endeavors to not only speak Japanese fluently but also confidently. I believe he is darn near his goal. As a side note, Kabuto is a Japanese Rhinoceros Beetle (the things ya learn hey?)

Dan was able to visit Japan in 2017 with his dad and brother Mike (our Great Lakes Energy guy). While he loved every single part of the trip, the best for him was actually speaking to the people. He loved the look of surprise on their faces when he would roll up and talk to them. He said the people were as excited as he was that he spoke Japanese. He still practices daily. He has a routine that he follows and is diligent about. He exercises in the morning for a set period of time but at 8:10 am it is time to get down to business.

He studies his Rocket Japanese and other courses, then moves on to videos he has created himself to help him refine everything he is learning. He has his own YouTube channel, My Specialty Japanese. I have checked it out. I am impressed! He has put out 60 videos so far. They are for the most part, stand-alone, so you can pick and choose.

I have to tell you that when he showed me his routine for studying I was overwhelmed. Really overwhelmed. He begins preparing the night before by opening all the tabs on his computer in the order that he will do them. I don't even know how to do that!

He studies most of the day, with breaks for meals and other daily things. In the evenings he finishes up any exercises that he wasn't able to complete in the morning.

He loves visitors. I would gather from our conversation that his niece Claire is his favorite. She is 14 now. Claire appreciates his studies, and watches favorite movies in Japanese with him. I was surprised to see how many classic American movies are available in Japanese. Claire also loves to bake with her Grandma Tarry. Dan loves baked goods so that works out well for both of them.

Dan has vast collections of action figures of all of his favorites. I could have looked all day. His collection of movies is equally amazing. He has been collecting for a really long time. He thought he was kind of done with that, but he recently discovered that there is a Holiday Optimus Prime figure that has a candy cane gun, and some new Beast Wars ones as well.

In case you want to know, his favorite movies are Black Bullet, Kamen Rider Kabuto, Guyver, Tekkaman Blade, all action movies. The rare exception to this is a movie called A Silent Voice. Dan didn't want to spoil it for me but did tell me it's about a young girl who is being bullied, and the bully who tries to make it up to her later. You can rent or buy it on YouTube if you want to check it out.

Dan's diligence and dedication to his studies is something I wish I had. I could write 10 pages about Dan. What an incredible guy, but my editor is going to shoot me if I don't shut up already.

Thanks for spending time with me, Dan!

Photo Credits: Amy Marschner, BIC, Kerry Smith, Teresa Sirviats, Jacque LaFreniere, BICS, Jordan Marsh, Judy Boyle

FEBRUARY 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 • **10 am** Pickleball • **10am** COA Chair Yoga • **10am** Women's Bible Study • **11am** Senior Tai Chi • **5pm** Burger & Beer • **6pm** Beaver Island AA Meeting • **7pm** Euchre Night at WPBC	2 • **9am** Senior+Vets Coffee & Donuts • **10am** Pickleball • **10:30am** Arthritis Foundation Exercise Program	3 • **1pm** Lego Club • **4pm Movie:** Chicken Run: Dawn of the Nugget • **6 pm** AA Meeting • **7pm Movie:** Priscilla
4 • **10am** Beaver Island Christian Church Worship • **12:15pm** Sunday Mass at 12:15	5 • **11am** Bingocize • **5pm** All you can eat Pizza & Salad • **5:30pm** Pickleball	6 • **9am** Talking Threads • **10am** COA Cardio Drumming • **10am** Pickleball • **10:30am** Arthritis Exercise Program • **6pm** AA Meeting	7 • **9am** Peaine Township Planning Commission • **11am** Mexican Food Day • **11am** Bingocize • **1pm** COA BINGO • **1pm** St. James Township Finance & Administration Committee • **3:30pm** Facilities Committee Mtg • **5pm** Time for Art • **5:30pm** BIDL COTW Mtg	8 • **10am** Pickleball • **10am** COA Chair Yoga • **10am** Women's Bible Study • **11am** Senior Tai Chi • **5pm** Burger & Beer • **6pm** Beaver Island AA Meeting • **7pm** Euchre Night at WPBC	9 • **9am** Senior Vets Coffee & Donuts • **10am** Pickleball • **10:30 am** Arthritis Foundation Exercise Program	10 • **1pm** Lego Club • **6pm** Beaver Island AA Meeting
11 • **10am** Beaver Island Christian Church Worship • **12:1 5pm** Sunday Mass at 12:15	12 • **10am** COA Cardio Drumming • **5pm** All You Can Eat Pizza & Salad • **5:30pm** Pickleball • **6:30pm** School Board Meeting	13 • **9am** Talking Threads • **10am** Pickleball • **10:30am** Arthritis Foundation Exercise Program • **12pm** Beaver Island Transportation Authority Meeting • **5:30pm** Peaine Township Board Meeting • **6pm** Beaver Island AA Meeting • **6:30pm** Let's Get Quizzical	14 • **10am** Bingocize • **11am** Mexican Food Day • **1pm** COA Wednesda Bingo • **7pm** Adult Faith Formation **Valentines Day Special Menu @ Wild Strawberry Cafe**	15 • **10am** Women's Bible Study • **10am** Pickleball • **10am** Senior Tai Chi • **11am** COA Chair Yoga • **2pm** Emergency Services Authority Meeting • **4:30pm** BI Telecommunications Advisory Meeting • **5pm** BIDL Board Meeting • **5pm** Burger & a Beer • **6pm** Beaver Island AA Meeting • **7pm** Euchre Night at WPBC	16 • **9am** Senior Vets Coffee & Donuts • **10am** Pickleball • **10:30am** Arthritis Foundation Exercise Program	17 • **1pm** Lego Club • **4pm Movie:** The Marvels • **6pm** BI AA Meeting • **7pm Movie:** Self Reliance **Free Fishing Weekend**
18 • **10am** Beaver Island Christian Church Worship • **12:15 pm** Sunday Mass **Free Fishing Weekend**	19 • **11am** Bingocize • **5pm** All You Can Eat Pizza & Salad • **5:30pm** Pickleball	20 • **9am** Talking Threads • **10am** Pickleball • **10am** COA Cardio Drumming • **10:30am** Arthritis Exercise Program • **6pm** Beaver Island AA	21 • **11am** Bingocize • **11am** Mexican Food Day • **11am** St. James Township Public Works Meeting • **1pm** COA BINGO • **7pm** Adult Faith Formation	22 • **10am** Women's Bible Study • **10am** Pickleball • **10am** Senior Tai Chi • **11am** COA Chair Yoga • **5pm** Burger & a Beer • **6pm** Beaver Island AA Meeting • **7pm** Euchre Night at WPBC	23 • **9am** Senior Vets Coffee & Donuts • **10am** Pickleball • **10:30am** Arthritis Foundation Exercise Program • **6:30pm** BIHS Bingo	24 • **1pm** Lego Club • **4pm Movie:** Orion and the Dark • **6pm** BI AA Meeting • **6:30pm** BIHS Cabaret Night • **7:30pm Movie:** Killers of the Flower Moon
25 • **10am** Beaver Island Christian Church Worship • **12:15 pm** Sunday Mass	26 • **11am** Bingocize • **5pm** All You Can Eat Pizza & Salad • **5:30pm** Pickleball	27 • **9am** Talking Threads • **10am** COA Cardio Drumming • **10am** Pickleball • **10:30am** Arthritis Foundation Exercise Program • **1pm** BI @ Munising Baptist- Boys BBall • **6pm** BI AA Meeting	28 • **10am** Bingocize • **11am** Mexican Food Day • **1pm** COA BINGO • **7pm** Adult Faith Formation			

funfacts

For the most up-to-date island events please visit the BIC Calendar. We send our paper to print and dates are subject to change after.

https://biccenter.org/calendar/

MCDONOUGH'S DELIVERS 30 YEARS OF FLOWER HAPPINESS TO THE ISLAND

By Denise McDonough

We are excited about the **30th year** of our flower sale. When I talked to our greenhouse supplier, he mentioned it was 1968 when he was in grade school that he remembers taking Spartan Stores on as a customer. He remembers that his father had him box up a few flats of flowers for McDonough's on Beaver Island. At that time, Spartan trucks would pick up orders and deliver them on their semis as part of a regular grocery order in the spring. I don't think that method lasted very long. We now have that wonderful generational family at Brower's Greenhouse deliver our large, one-time-only, spring flower order directly to the boat dock.

This year's delivery is scheduled for a May 16th delivery, **the sale is to start May 17th**. We have several customers who order in advance, to assure they can get what they want. We ask that you order full flats and we will set them aside before the sale starts. If anyone is at all interested in being part of this program, please let Denise know by February 28th.

- We can get all shapes and sizes.
- Annuals, vegetables, herbs, and hanging baskets.
- Beautiful planters, already planted in the nursery, and are full of beautiful blooms already
- We can even take special requests

Just reach out and contact Denise at **mcdonoughsmarket@gmail.com**

Our prices have always been very competitive, as I have been told by our returning customers. And, of course, we ship over on the boat in bulk. We are not charging an individual freight cost for every item, which helps to reduce our prices to you.

HELPING YOU CREATE
THE HOME THAT YOU LOVE!

Your home plays a central role in your everyday life, when enjoying time with children, friends, or family; or simply relaxing on a beautiful day. Making changes or building a new home is easier when you partner with an expert that understands your vision and can turn it into reality. Whether a renovation or new building project, our team focuses on exceeding your expectations and turning your dreams into reality through honest communication and professional expertise.

Project Planning & Preparation
Roofing | Siding | Soffit & Fascia | Gutter Systems
Doors, Windows & Skylights | Rot Repair | Insulation
Kitchen & Bath Remodels | Interior Upgrades & Remodels
Demolition & Reconstruction
New Building Construction | Additions
Garages & Pole Barns | Decks & Stairways | Site Work | Masonry

Phone: 989-772-2202 | Web: www.GreenwaldBC.com

Preston Herren: Preston@GreenwaldBC.com

Maura Turner: Maura@GreenwaldBC.com

I WANNA GO OUTSIDE!!
SERGEI !!! DO YOU WANNA GO OUTSIDE?
ME TOO! ME TOO!!!
WHY DO GIRLS ALWAYS HAVE TO GO TO THE BATHROOM TOGETHER?
THE SILLY SISTERS, DEC 31, 2023

olsonconstructionbi@gmail.com
No Job Too Big or Too Small
www.olsonconstructionllc.org
olsonconstructionbi@gmail.com
231-675-8180

WE ♡ BEAVER ISLAND!
Where MICHIGIN Begins...
MICHIGIN
GIN
LONG ROAD
LONG ROAD DISTILLERS
Learn More at www.LongRoadDistillers.com

BEAVER ISLAND WILDLIFE NEWS

By Jacque LaFreniere

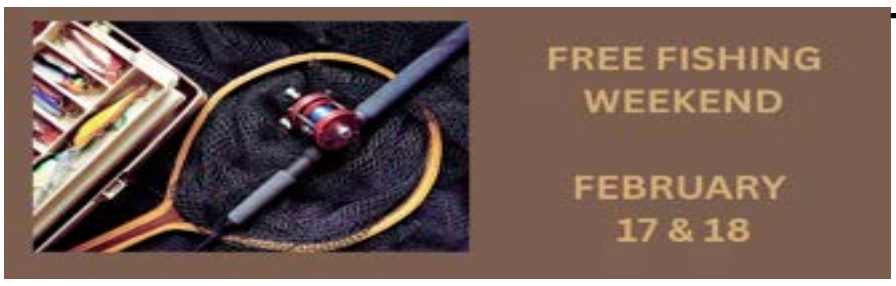
Annual Lake Geneserath Ice Fishing Tournament

Plans are underway to host the annual Lake Geneserath Ice Fishing Tournament on the State's Free Fishing Weekend February 17 th . Of course, it depends upon the conditions- ice conditions specifically. If conditions are not favorable, it will be postponed to another weekend. No license is needed for this weekend. If we need to move to a different weekend, adults will need to get their licenses- available online at Michigan.gov/dnr.

The contest is open and free for all. Prizes will be awarded for both adults and kids. Adult categories are for largest Pike and Largest Bluegill. Kids categories are for largest pike and largest panfish.

Anyone wishing to donate prizes or money towards prizes please contact Jacque LaFreniere (231-448-2220 or at library). Great Fun for the whole family!

LAST YEARS WINNERS



Two days twice a year, families and friends can enjoy one of Michigan's premier outdoor activities, Michigan Fishing, for FREE!

Free Fishing Weekend dates for 2024 are: Feb 17-18 and June 8 -9.
All fishing license fees will be waived for two days. Residents and out-of-state visitors may enjoy fishing on both inland and Great Lakes waters for all species of fish. All fishing regulations will still apply.

A Recreation Passport will NOT be required for entry into state parks and boating access sites during Free Fishing Weekends.
Check out a fishing program at a state park!

Going ice fishing during the February Free Fishing Weekend? Make sure to review our ice safety tips and for additional information visit:
https://www.michigan.gov/dnr/things-to-do/fishing/free-fishing

MDNR 2023 Beaver Island Fisheries Survey

In July of 2023, the MDNR conducted various fisheries surveys on two inland lakes (Geneserath and Fox) and several streams (Cable's, Iron Ore, Jordan and unnamed ones). A summary of their results follows:

Lake Geneserath: They collected bluegill, pumpkinseed sunfish, large and small mouth bass, walleye, creek chub, northern pike, steelhead, and turtles. Bluegill and both bass were of good size and walleye showed multi-year classes which shows that our fish stocking efforts are working well.

Fox Lake: Large bluegill, brown bullhead, pumpkinseed sunfish, large-mouth bass and walleye were collected. Walleye up to 25" were collected. A large amount of juvenile Largemouth Bass were collected as well.

Jordan River: due to the timing of the collection, there was very little water in the river but they were able to find some water along Hannigan Road. There they collected brook stickleback, northern redbelly dace, and central mudminnow.

Iron Ore Creek: Brook trout were collected ranging in size from 1-9". Again low water levels were documented.

Cable's Creek was sampled from the mouth to the footbridge. Bluegill, brook trout, blacknose dace, and rainbow trout were collected. This stream was also very low in water level.

About **20 stream crossings** were documented but few had water in them. One near Martin's Point had enough water for a brook trout that was collected there.

Hopefully they will return to sample these stream crossings in the spring when more water might be present.

Over the winter, they will work on age data from scales collected and prepare a larger report of the streams and lakes surveyed in 2013 and 2023.

Dock updates:

The club is planning a couple of dock projects this spring and summer. There will be an extension on the dock at the Lake Geneserath boat launch. Discussion continues about placing a fishing dock at Fox Lake and possibly one on the harbor as well. As docks are expensive, the club is looking for sponsors/donors to help with the cost.

Please contact us if interested in helping out. We will keep you posted in the next Northern Islander on our progress.

Donations/bequests/sponsors

The club welcomes donations for our various activities and projects. Upcoming will be the trees and shrubs to plant and the dock projects in spring and summer and the fall hunting contests and raffles which all cost money. We try to do all of these things with the money we make off the raffles each fall. Donations or bequests can be made to the Beaver Island Wildlife Club which is a 501©3organization.

RIDE THE BOAT

FERRY | FREIGHT | FUN

BEAVER ISLAND BOAT COMPANY

(231) 547-2311 ✤ WWW.BIBCO.COM ✤

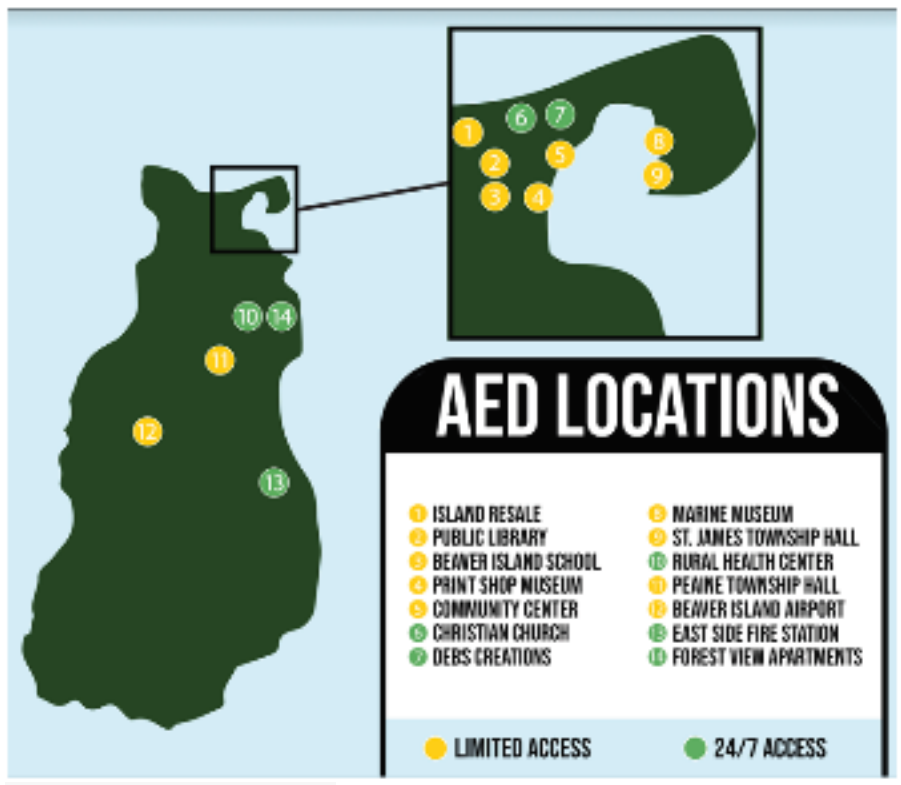
ISLAND TREASURES RESALE SHOP

The Beaver Island Fire Department Auxiliary operates the shop to support our Fire Department.

The more you shop, the safer we make our island!

26551 Donegal Bay Rd
Beaver Island, MI 49782
(231) 448-2534

Below is a map of the Island showing the physical locations of the AEDs. Please also note the color coding that provides the type of access available. Thanks again to the Island Treasures Resale Shop and the contribution you each make with supporting their efforts!



THANK YOU TO ALL THE VOLUNTEERS WHO MAKE THE RESALE SHOP POSSIBLE!

McDonough Construction Inc.

Office Location: 36626 Kings Highway, Beaver Island *(Building 3 behind the Eager Beaver Clean and Store)*

Office: 231-448-3038

Over 30 year in business!

General Contractors Specializing in:

Commercial Construction
Residential Construction
Property Management
Construction Consulting
Homes, Cottages and Cabins
Applegate Spray Foam Insulation
Insurance Claims
Water Mitigation
Garages, pole barns and decks
Excavation
Home Remodeling
Foundations
Concrete Flat Work

Operated by McPhillips Flying Service, Inc.
Beaver Island's committed aviation service provider.

Safe, efficient, and fun ride to Beaver Island
Only a 15 minute flight! • Pet Friendly • FAA Certified Air Ambulance
Here to serve all your freight needs.

www.islandairways.com
111 Airport Drive Charlevoix, MI 49720

Call For Your Reservation Today
Toll Free: 800-524-6895
Charlevoix: 231-547-2141 • Beaver Island: 231-448-2071

LOOKING TO BUY, SELL, RENT, SEEK HELP OR PROMOTE A SERVICE?

By Amy Marschner

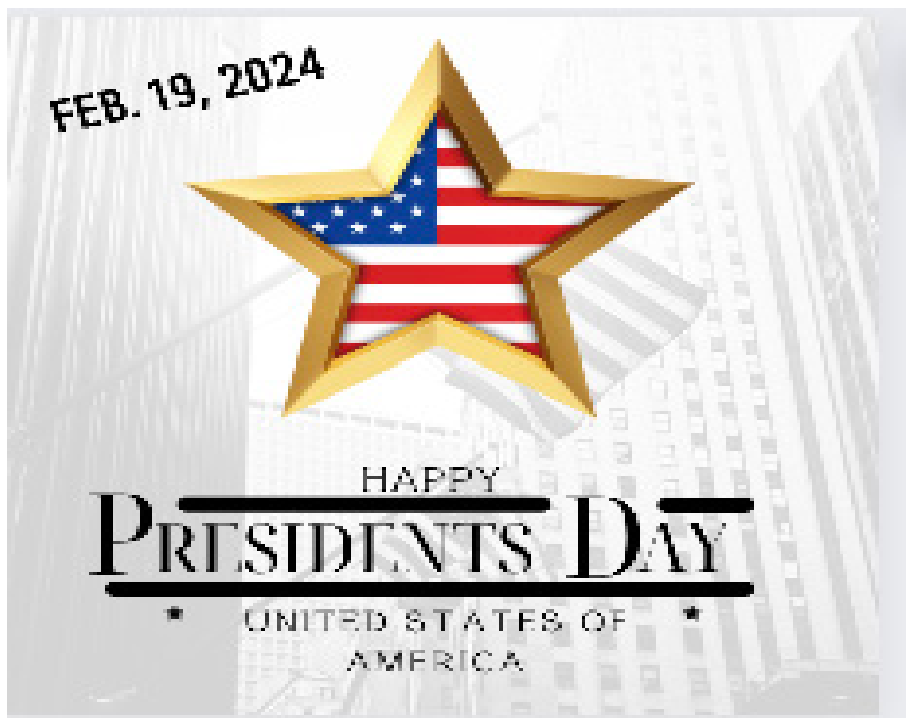
The Northern Islander will be launching a new section called "***The Beaver Classifieds***" which will serve as a marketplace section near the back of the newspaper. The ad placements will have a standard size format and will run monthly. All creative will need to be supplied with the specifications outlined by the content due date monthly.

WHY PLACE A CLASSIFIED AD?

- Does your home look like a junk yard? Do you have cars, boats, and toys that you thought were a good idea but never use? **SELL THEM**
- Do you have a second home that you want to help pay the taxes on when not using? **RENT IT**
- Are you skilled at a trade, have spare time and also need some additional money? **PROMOTE IT**
- Did you have a mid-life crisis and bought something crazy that you will never use? **SELL IT**
- Are you looking to barter**? MAKE YOUR TRADE**
- Do you own fishing, outdoor and camping gear that seemed cool but have yet to put to use? **SOMEONE ELSE WILL WANT IT = SELL IT**
- Are you holding on to furniture and home goods that you love but just don't have the space for? **LIST IT = SOMEONE ELSE MAY NEED IT**
- Do you own rental properties and need a cleaning service? **ASK FOR HELP= WE HAVE ISLANDERS WHO CAN ASSIST**
- Are you a caregiver and or babysitter willing to help? **MARKET YOUR SERVICES AND AVAILABILITY**

We are still organizing the details, specifications and cost but we wanted to provide insight as to an upcoming content section and feature to help support our community.

TRAVEL
Around the World
with your Beaver Island Community Center
February & March 2024
The Beaver Island Community Center will be collecting post cards from you, your friends, your family, and our summer residents. We want to hear where you are and what you are up to.
We will be tracking the locations of where we receive post cards and where the furthest post card comes from. Happy traveling!
mail to:
BEAVER ISLAND COMMUNITY CENTER
26215 MAIN STREET
BEAVER ISLAND, MI 49782



CALLING ALL FUR BABIES
To submit, email an article and photo of your pet to be featured in the Northern Islander
AT MOST 3 PICTURES
LIMIT OF 200 WORDS
EMAIL TO:
EDITOR@BEAVERISLANDHISTORY.ORG
NORTHERN ISLANDER

ST. JAMES MARINE CO.
FOGG TOWING & MARINE
DOCKS
TOWING
DREDGING
BOAT REPAIR
LOGGING
SALVAGE
EXCAVATING
CONTAINER SHIPPING
SEAWALLS
ON WATER FIREWORKS
GENERAL FREIGHT, CARGO, HEAVY EQUIPMENT, TOPSOIL, BOATS, MORE
You Call, We HAUL
SERVING BEAVER ISLAND & THE GREAT LAKES
captainfoggengineer@gmail.com
231.838.0254 • STJAMESMARINE.com

Central Drug Store
301 BRIDGE STREET, CHARLEVOIX, MI 49720 231-547-2424
SERVING YOU &
HUNDREDS OF BEAVER
ISLANDERS DAILY
Dedicated to Providing the Best
Health Care to our Community
Serving Beaver Island Daily (Monday-Saturday) to both airports
Orders received by noon will generally ship same day
(weather/availability permitting)
We take most insurances and have no restrictions on
types of prescriptions (including non-prescription items)
New Customers please contact the pharmacy
to create your profile before we can ship
Carrying on
the Tradition
Since 1897
CALL NOW
231-547-2424
https://www.central-drug.com

Fly to Beaver Island!

Daily Service From Charelvoix

Scenic Air Tours

Easy Airline Connections from Pellston or Traverse City

Everything revolves around you! Schedule - Service - Convenience

FRESH AIR AVIATION, INC.
Fly Right!

Located at the Beaver Island Township Airport

231-448-2089 www.FreshAirAviation.net

Community Banking on Beaver Island

Here to serve you all year long

Charlevoix STATE BANK

Your Local Community Bank

38230 Michigan Ave. • Beaver Island
231-448-2190 • www.charlevoixstatebank.com
Member FDIC

Ed Wojan Realty

Edward B. Wojan — Broker
231-313-8682 Cell
Vicki Smith — Sales Associate
253-720-5692 Cell

Dooley Home
27815 East Side Dr.

More pictures at
edwojanrealty.com

This four bedroom, two bathroom home is just East of Appleby's Point on a lot that has 125.78' of Lake Michigan frontage. The lot extends across South End Road with a good lake view of the frontage on the South side of the road. This lake lot is almost 1,000 feet deep with its North line against State land. The beach is stony but the water view of the Big Lake and Appleby's Point and sunsets about 4 months of the year, make this a beautiful family home or retirement site. The upper level of the house is 1,248 sq. ft. of beautifully finished living area with 3 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms. There is an additional, large bedroom with 2 full size beds and 2 twin beds in the lower level. The whole house was built above grade with the lower walk-out level cement block basement construction. The home was built in 2000 but the owners put a new metal roof on it 3 years ago. It has a 200' deep well with very good water, a brand new electric water heater and a propane central heating furnace. In addition, the owners installed and have used for many years, an outside wood boiler for winter time heating of the house (cut your own fuel). In the lower level the owners have set up a sitting, reading, TV room that is very comfortable on the lakeside of the downstairs but it is not finished. The lower level has a lot of storage rooms and racks. There are large decks on the South and East sides of the house and a narrower deck with access stairs to the upper level on the West side of the house. The great room that includes the kitchen, dining, and living room area has windows on the East, West, and South side. All of the appliances are fairly new and stay with the house. Behind the house is a 24 x 24 slab floor garage for car storage or all of your toys and maybe a workshop. The replacement cost of this property today would be right around $747,000.00. It therefore is a bargain for someone to buy at the asking price of **$385,000.**

OFFICE - 26300 Back Highway - Beaver Island, MI 49782 - Call Ed at 231-313-8682

BAROQUE ON BEAVER ANNOUNCES 2024 SEASON

By Executive Director Matt Thomas

The Beaver Island Performing Arts Alliance (BIPAA) is pleased to announce the 23rd season of Baroque on Beaver, July 25 through August 3. “We have another exciting week of concerts planned,” said Music Director Robert Nordling. “There are a wide range of offerings from which one may choose, whether jazz, popular, or classical. We will feature all our small ensembles (woodwind quintet, brass quintet, string quartet) and a variety of soloists. We are pleased to continue our commitment to new classical music with a World Premiere by Chicago composer Eric Malmquist. And not least, we continue our support of the next generation of artists with our Young Soloist Competition, the winner of which will perform with the Festival Orchestra.”

Notably, this season will be the first without an appearance by the Festival Chorus. Baroque’s longtime Choral Director Kevin Simons has moved on to other projects, and we have reevaluated the role of the Chorus within the Festival. There will still be a robust vocal presence, however. A vocal quartet of soloists will perform during the week, and we are thrilled to welcome back Beaver Island’s own Martha Guth, soprano. Along with her husband, basso Ricardo Lugo, she will perform both on the Finale Concert and during the week. For more details and updates, please visit us at **baroqueonbeaver.org.**

Thursday July 25 | 7:30 | Beaver Island Historical Society | Lecture with Robert Nordling

Saturday July 27 | 7:30 | BIC Center | Opening Night Benefit, Jaeden Izik-Dzurko, piano

Monday July 29

- **3:00 | Whiskey Point Lighthouse | Brass on the Grass**
- **7:30 | BIC Center | New and Next: Contemporary Classical, Robert Nordling, host**

Tuesday July 30

- **3:00 | Beaver Island Gallery | Donegal Bay Winds**
- **7:30 | CMU | Chamber Music Waterside**

Wednesday July 31

- **3:00 | Whiskey Point Brewing | St James Jazz Ensemble**
- **7:30 | CMU | The Founders Concert**

Thursday August 1

- **7:30 | Beaver Island School | Baroque on Beaver Festival Orchestra**

Saturday August 3

- **5:30 | Beaver Island Community Center | A Dinner Before the Opera**
- **7:30 | Beaver Island School | A Night at the Opera**

FREE SNOW SHOE RENTALS

BIC Center

BEAVER ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Beaver Island residents have little chance for physical activities outdoors during the winter. Our organization would like to extend an opportunity to our community to borrow snowshoes and explore the island.

We purchased 22 pairs of snowshoes of various sizes to accommodate families and adult individuals weighing up to 300 pounds. The Beaver Island Community School currently has snowshoes to accommodate the student body, but does not have a program in place that accommodates parents or other adults, nor are their shoes available outside of school hours for rentals.

MOVING FORWARD

- ***All snowshoes must be checked out by a responsible adult- 18 years old with identification***
- ***Limited youth sizes but more available at the school***
- ***You must return snowshoes within 48 hours***
- ***Snowshoes can be checked out at the BICC***

KISSING AUNTY ESTHER

By Capt. Glen Felixson

My kid brother Leif was born for free in 1955 at the old Medical Center. The Island was classified as an isolated community back then so medical expenses like births were paid for by the state. Old Doc Vail sewed me up quite often. About 1958, Leif was talking just fine. My dad had gotten a pig. He was friends with the Coast Guard guys at the Point and they gave us the kitchen left over to feed it. Since they ate quite well and there were about six of them, it represented at least a five-gallon bucket a day. The pig ate well and got big.

He or she wasn't mean. You could pet it. Except for the one-time El Nutso here with the bright idea to ride it. That was a different story. Over the fence I went, with Ronald and my brother Kurt egging me on. My Dad hollerin'" "Whoo, Whoo, Whoo," but it was too late. I landed on its back which might have been not too bad except when I grabbed its ears to hang onto. That was a different story.

I don't think my feet ever touched the ground until I was outside the pen, as in airborne. I might have been leakin' also but I don't remember getting sewn up so it couldn't have been too bad. Kurt and Ronald are laughing their arses off. The ol' man calls me a squirrel, his favorite name for us and walks off.

Well back to the story. We didn't have a phone, not many did. The Coast Guard did and they didn't mind you using it once in a while. It was Xmas time. We were calling Grandma, Grandpa, and Aunty Esther, Pa's sister in Chicago, to let them know when we would be there for Xmas. When everybody got done talking and saying goodbye, they handed the phone to little Leif to say goodbye to Aunty Esther, smooch, smooch.

The Coast Guard guy takes the phone and says, "You got it upside down, son," and hands it back to him, at which the kids say, "Sorry, Aunty Esther, I kissed you on the wrong end."

Well, at that we're all laughing and leaning on each other. The poor kid almost started crying, thinking he did something wrong, which brought on lots of hugs. He was cute as hell, you couldn't help but love him like crazy.

Those were good years. The Coast Guards were our heroes, right up to the time they almost had to launch a boat to get some crazy little Viking kid rowing in an old wood skiff out of the harbor, into a storm. But that's another story.
P.S It wasn't Leif.

AWARD WINNING
Crock Pot Cook-Off
SAVE THE DATE
FRIDAY MARCH 1
All are welcome to either bring a dish or just come eat and enjoy the company!
We will have a few prizes but mostly for bragging rights!
Free Will Donation!
STAY TUNED FOR MORE INFORMATION BUT GET YOUR PLAN AND CROCK READY!

HOGARTH'S

Pest Control Company

Celebrating 28 Years!

Call Us Today!

(231) 264-6060 • (800) 264-6161

www.hogarthspestcontrol.com • info@Hogarthspestcontrol.com

Servicing Beaver Island For Over 20 Years

"THE BUG STOPS HERE!"

Specializing in

Carpenter Ants, Spiders & Web Sweeping, Rodents, Wasps, Bats, and All Of Your Pest and Wildlife Control Needs!

Emerald Style

BICS printing

Socials

Facebook @Emerald Style Instagram @emerald_style_bics

BICS Printing Services

Banners, Shirts, Special Events Clothing and Gear

BEAVER ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

BEAVER ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MUSEUM WEEK

JULY 14-19, 2024

SAVE THE DATE!

you might not know
we have life, home,
auto and business
insurance. now you do.

simple human sense

BINGHAM INSURANCE Charlevoix
231.547.4062
info@binghaminsurance.net

Auto-Owners
INSURANCE
LIFE • HOME • CAR • BUSINESS

GREGORY LARSON
ARCHITECT

1514 Mifflin Street
Huntingdon, PA 16652
greglarsonarchitect@gmail.com (P) 814.599.1112

Join Cindy Gillespie-Cushman, from one of the historic Beaver Island Irish families, at the Beaver Island Community Center in making Brigid's Crosses to celebrate Imbolc, the midpoint between Winter and Spring. Brigid's Crosses are woven from dried grasses and other natural materials. You can then display or hang them in your home to protect from negative energy.

PROTAR'S TOMB
BY JOSEPH SLANEY

FOR HONOR AND BRAVERY
AND THE MYTHS OF THE FIEFDOM,
CANNON FIRE AND HERALDRY
IN EACH AND EVERY KINGDOM,

WHILE IN A WOODS FAR AWAY,
RESTS A MAN KIND AND MODEST,
WHOM BIRDS, AT THE BREAK OF DAY,
PRAISE IN SONG BRIGHT AND HONEST.

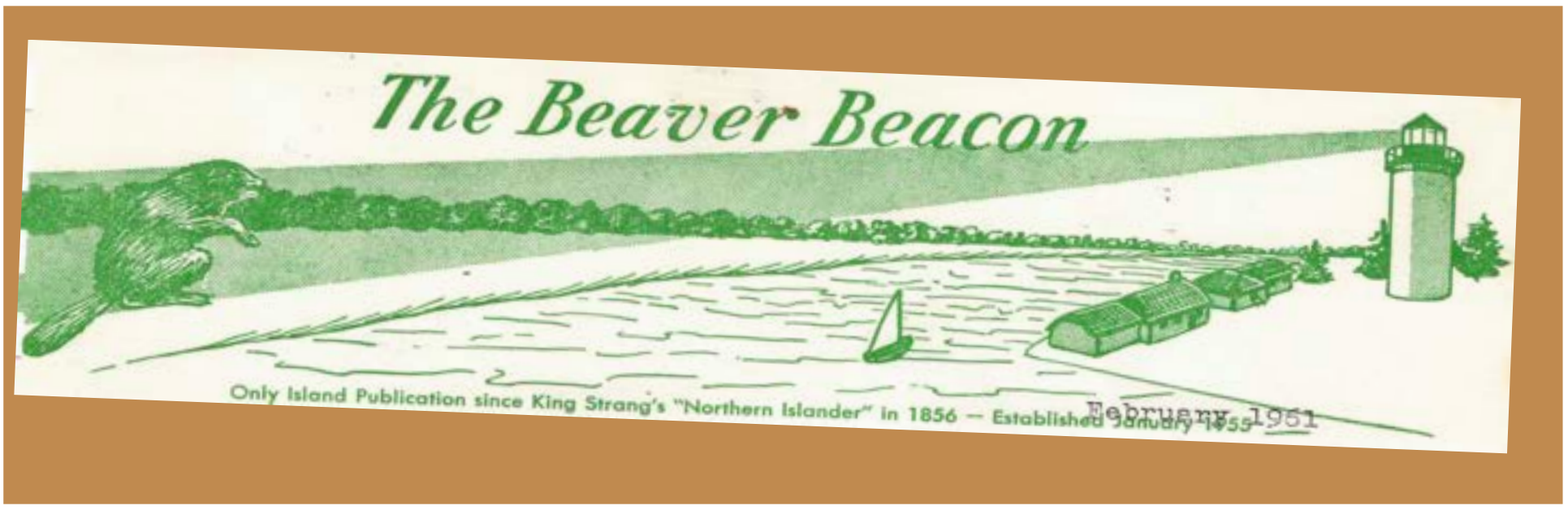
IN HONOR OF PROTAR 'S BIRTHDAY –
FEBRUARY 19, 1837

Pierre wants to know if you have a story? Share it with us! To submit your piece for consideration, email our Editor at editor@beaverislandhistory.org

WILL THE GROUNDHOG SEE HIS SHADOW ON FEBRUARY 2?

BLAST FROM THE PAST BEAVER BEACONS- A FEW STORIES FROM FEBRUARY 1961

Shared by Amy Marschner


The Beaver Beacon
Only Island Publication since King Strang's "Northern Islander" in 1856 — Established January 1955
February 1961

WEATHER: If winter comes, can spring be far away. Well - with our very, very cold weather that we have had the past two weeks, we certainly hope spring is peeking around the corner. Beaver Island, at this writing, has very little snow on the ground. There has been no need for Don Cole's snow plow for over a month, but we have had below zero temperatures for the first time in many years, according to local residents.

The fishing on Beaver Island was discussed at great length with Mr. Max Hunt. Barney's Lake and Lake Geneserath, according to netting reports taken last summer, have a good supply of fish. Perch, small and large mouth bass, blue gills, northern pike, and other fish are in fairly large abundance in one or both lakes. Fox Lake, however, is presenting a problem to fishermen, in that the perch, blue gills, and bass are very small and show no signs of growth. Mr. Hunt said that the lake could be treated with a fish toxicant which could be used in two ways - either selective treatment which would kill only the small fish - or a complete treatment with replanting of only bass, blue gills and crappies. This will be discussed further at Civic Association meetings, and Mr. Hunt will be informed as to which process to follow. Mr. Hunt could offer no explanation for the lack of cooperation of the fish in Beaver Harbor. They are there, but they just won't bite!

To read more Beacons from the past, visit the Historical Society website archive at https://www.beaverislandhistory.org/beaver-beacon/

GET YOUR ISSUE NOW!

$10.00

Plus $2.50 shipping and handling

Beaver Island Print Shop Museum

Name:_____
Address:_____
City:_____
State:_____ ZIP:_____
E-mail:_____

Payment options:

☐ CREDIT CARD- CALL (231) 448-2254
☐ CHECK

Mail to:
THE NORTHERN ISLANDER
PO BOX 295
BEAVER ISLAND, MI 49782

BEAVER ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

THE BEAVER ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY PROUDLY ANNOUNCES THE RELAUNCH OF THE BEAVER BEACON AS A HISTORY MAGAZINE DEVOTED TO TELLING THE STORY OF BEAVER ISLAND.

THE INAGURAL ISSUE EXPLORES THE PEOPLE, CULTURE, GEOGRAPHY, AND EVENTS THAT MAKE BEAVER ISLAND A SPECIAL PLACE TO LIVE OR VISIT.

TALES THAT WILL BE TOLD IN THE FIRST OR UPCOMING EDITIONS WILL EXAMINE SUCH TOPICS AS THE EARLY IRISH IMMIGRATION TO THE ISLAND AND THE BUILDING OF ITS FIRST LIGHTHOUSE.

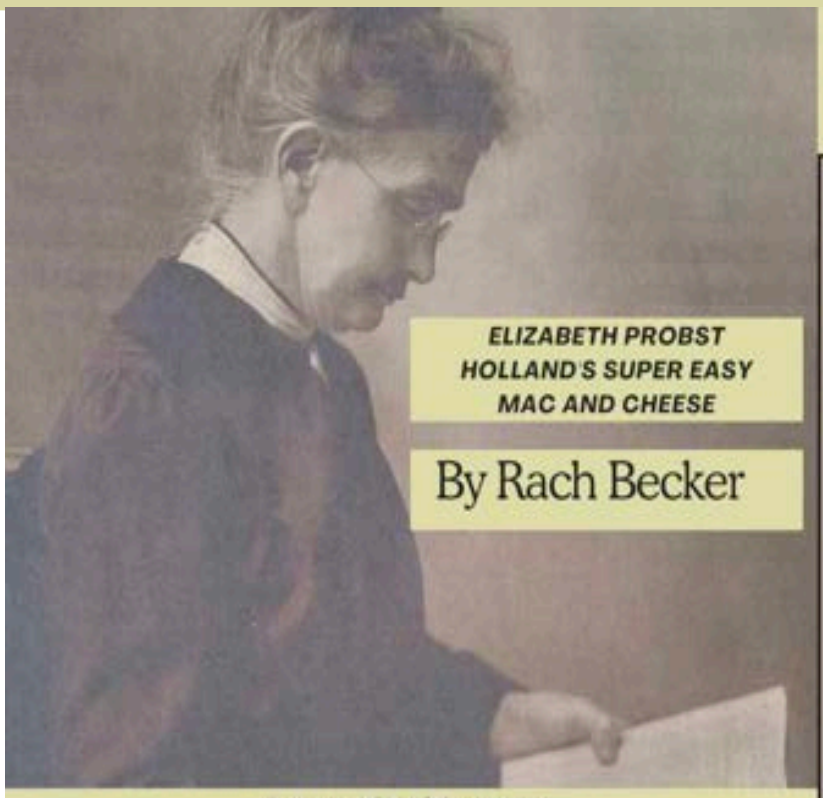
NATURALLY, MANY OF THE STORIES THAT WILL BE TOLD ARE FAMILIAR TO LONGTIME ISLANDERS. BUT WE HOPE TO UNCOVER ADDITIONAL OR EVEN FORGOTTEN DETAILS TO ADD TO THE HISTORICAL RECORD. FOR NEWCOMERS AND FIRST-TIME VISITORS, WE HOPE TO BROADEN AND ENRICH THEIR UNDERSTANDING OF A UNIQUE PLACE THAT SO MANY OF US TREASURE.

THE NEW BEAVER BEACON, HAS ARRIVED AND IS AVAILABLE AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS: BIHS PRINT SHOP MUSEUM, MCDONOUGH'S MARKET, AND BEAVER ISLAND COMMUNITY CENTER OR CALL (231)-448-2254 TO TAKE YOUR ORDER

GET YOUR BEAVER ON WITH THE NEW BEACON!

ISSUE PRICE: $10.00
*PLUS $2.50 SHIPPING

TRIED AND TRUE FAMILY RECIPES



ELIZABETH PROBST HOLLAND'S SUPER EASY MAC AND CHEESE

By Rach Becker

Mac & Cheese

- *1 cup shredded cheese of your choice--Jan uses sharp cheddar*
- *1 cup macaroni, cooked until just shy of 'al dente'*
- *1 cup milk*
- *1 egg*

Multiply ingredients as needed for however many servings you are making.

- *Beat egg, with milk, the cooked macaroni, and add the cheese. Include salt, and other seasonings, as desired.*
- *Jan adds, 'Of course, you can add other seasonings too, and veggies to the mac and cheese. For instance, red pepper, onion, or other additions to taste. I add salt, pepper, and some dry mustard, but that's my choice.'*
- *Bake covered at 325 degrees for half an hour. Uncover and continue baking until golden brown and cooked through, about an additional half hour. If you are in a hurry, you can increase the heat to 350° or even 375°.*

***Blasta!* (*Irish for delicious*)**

EACH MONTH, WE WILL BE FEATURING RECIPES THAT WILL BE SURE TO HAVE YOU COMING BACK FOR SECOND HELPINGS. THE RECIPES THAT WE GREW UP WITH AND STILL MAKE TODAY

Jan McKnight has spent summers on the Island since the 1980s. I asked her the question that has been asked in every interaction throughout time, " How did you discover Beaver Island?"

She answered, "We were staying in Boyne City about 40 years ago and the husbands were out fishing AGAIN, so my friend and I, having done as much sightseeing as we were interested around Charlevoix, decided to see where the Beaver Island Ferry went. We took the early boat, did the tour, and ate at the Shamrock. I was in love! The next summer, my husband and I came over for a week, and the rest is history."

Jan reached out to me and told me that her great-grandmother, Elizabeth Probst Holland, made mac and cheese with no flour. It has been in the family for over a hundred years, and Jan and her daughter Connie still make it today.

Elizabeth Probst Holland was married to a Civil War vet, Samuel Holland, shortly after he returned from war. Just before the treaty was signed in Virginia, he was on duty when Lincoln came through to talk to General Grant. He called Lincoln's part to halt and shook hands with Lincoln before he went on to meet the General.

They lived in Youngstown, Ohio, and moved to Dayton around the beginning of the 1900s. Elizabeth lived to be 96. Jan remembers both of her great-grandparents when she was a child. Her great-grandmother taught her mother how to cook.

Beaver Island's
BEST RATES

Earl Young-designed Architecture
Seasonal Outdoor Heated Pool & Deck | Indoor Hot Tub Tower
Harbor & Bridge Views | Complimentary Continental Breakfast
Adjacent to Miles of Walkable Lake Michigan Beach

Airport Pick-Up Service by Reservation | 1 Block to Ferry & Downtown Shopping | Free Check-in Gift when Mentioning this Ad

Weathervane Terrace
INN & SUITES

800.552.0025 | 231.547.9955 | weathervane-chx.com
info@weathervane-chx.com | 111 Pine River Lane, Charlevoix, Michigan 49720

DOWNTOWN CHARLEVOIX'S ONLY AAA HOTEL
CERTIFICATE OF EXCELLENCE tripadvisor
SPECIALS & OFFERS

2024 CHARLEVOIX COUNTY COMMISSION ON AGING SURVEYS FOR SERVICES ON BEAVER ISLAND ARE AVAILABLE. PLEASE PICK-UP AND FILL OUT A SURVEY.
SURVEYS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE BEAVER ISLAND COA OFFICE AND THE BEAVER ISLAND COMMUNITY CENTER.

CHARLEVOIX COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SYNOPSIS JANUARY 10, 2024

The Charlevoix County Board of Commissioners met in the Charlevoix County Commissioners room on January 10, 2024, at 9:30 a.m. Six Commissioners were present.

Motion approved the agenda as amended.

Motion approved to appoint Pat Harmon as Vice-Chairman.

Approved Meeting Schedule

Audit Committee:	2nd Wed. prior to the day Board meeting 8:30 a.m. 4th Wed. prior to the night Board meeting, 5:00 p.m.
Board of Commissioners:	Second Wed., monthly, 9:30 a.m. Fourth Wed., monthly 6:00 p.m.
Committee of the Whole:	As necessary (no set schedule)
Public Safety/Judicial/Building: And Grounds Committee	First Wed., monthly, 9:30 a.m.
Personnel/Internal Government Committee:	Third Wed., monthly, 9:30 a.m.

Motion approved the consent agenda as presented.

Public Hearing CDBG Housing Improving Local Livability (CHILL) Grant opened for comments from the floor at 9:44 a.m. With no further comments the public hearing closed at 9:44 a.m.

Motion approved Resolution #24-001, Grandvue Operating Transfer.

Motion approved Resolution #24-002, Approve County Expenditures.

Motion approved to Reestablish the Charlevoix County Commission on Aging Advisory Board. 5.1. Nays – Commissioner Jess.

Motion approved to Reestablish the Charlevoix County Parks Committee. 4.2. Nays –Commissioner Jess and Commissioner Harmon.

Motion approved to Reestablish the Charlevoix County Transit Committee. 4.2. Nays –Commissioner Jess and Commissioner Harmon.

Motion approved to hire a full-time Boyne City Senior Center Coordinator and authorize the Fiscal Officer to amend the budget.

Motion approved Resolution #24-003, Depository Resolution.

Motion approved Resolution #24-004, Publications.

Motion approved Resolution #24-005, Parks Zero Turn Mower Purchase.

Motion approved Resolution #24-006, Parks Equipment Trailor Purchase.

Motion approved Resolution #24-007, Jail Nurse Services.

The meeting was adjourned to the call of the Chair at 10:49 a.m.

Complete copies of Board minutes can be found on the County website, www.charlevoixcounty.org.
Julia A. Drost, County Clerk

CHARLEVOIX COUNTY
MICHIGAN

CHARLEVOIX COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SYNOPSIS DECEMBER 27, 2023

The Charlevoix County Board of Commissioners met in the Charlevoix County Commissioners room on December 27, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. Six Commissioners were present.

Motion approved the agenda as presented.

Motion approved the consent agenda as presented.

Motion approved Resolution #23-154, Grandvue Operating Transfer.

Motion approved Resolution #23-155, FY 2024 Snap-Ed Mini Grant.

Motion approved Resolution #23-156, FY 2024 Recovery Support Highschool Program (RHSP).

Motion approved Resolution #23-157, Application for Funds.

Motion approved Resolution #23-158, Agreement for Extension Services.

Motion approved Resolution #23-159, Application for Funds.

Motion approved Resolution #23-160, Charlevoix County Transit Server Purchase.

Motion approved Resolution #23-161, Charlevoix County Transit Vehicle Purchase.

The meeting was adjourned to the call of the Chair at 6:25 p.m. Complete copies of Board minutes can be found on the County website, www.charlevoixcounty.org.

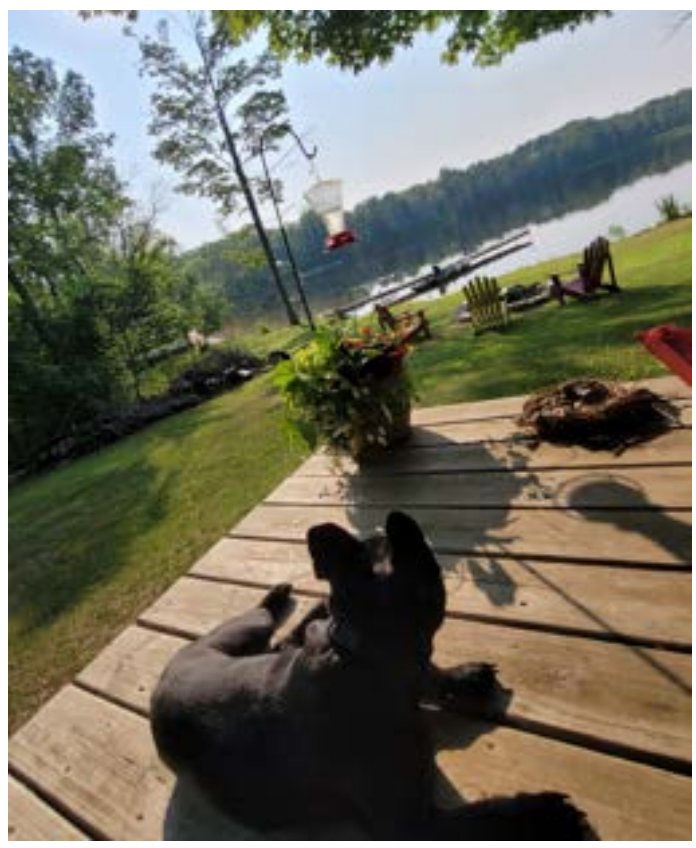
Julia A. Drost, County Clerk

Furbabies of Beaver Island

MEET JAGGER

By Gina Mangra

Jagger belongs to Scott Simons and Gina Mangra or should I say it's the other way around! He's our 2 year old bundle of energy. Jagger is the third French Bulldog we've had on Beaver Island. He loves to kayak, hike and lounge in the sunshine. He hates the winter because Mama puts a coat on him. But when it snows he gets the zoomies and runs around the house thru the snow plowed trails his Daddy makes. If you see him on the trails this summer be sure to say hi, he loves people.



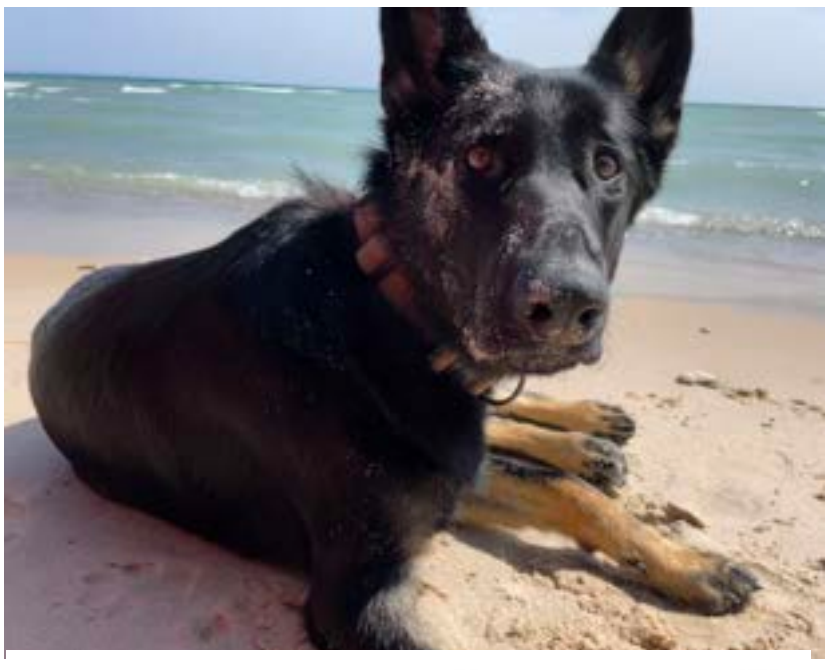
MEET SASCHA

By Rebecca Trester

Hello, Beaver Island Fur Friends! I'm Sascha, a 1 year old German Shepherd. My mom grew up on the island, and I love camping and spending island-time with my humans. My happiest place is our stretch of beach on the Lower East Side, where I can rise with the sun and hunt the beach for new finds each morning. Some mornings I like to just lay in the sand and watch the loons swim in the bay while my mom drinks her coffee. When we're in town, you'll find me sitting shotgun or behind the wheel of our island car, patiently waiting for my humans to eat or shop at their favorite spots. My favorite store is Power's Hardware. I get to shop too and one time I found a Squeaky Chicken!

At home, I attend the Toledo Kennel Club for school, and have been learning lots of manners and new tricks to show off for my friends. My mom says she likes it there because I can work on my manners while other dogs are nearby, and that it's better than a dog park. I've never been to a dog park, but I bet it smells amazing!

Favorite Game: Fetch
Favorite Snack: Kong frozen with Peanut Butter and goopy kibble
Favorite Activity: Sniffing
Best Trick: Catching my toys



Calling All Beavers: Please Join Our Northern Islander Family

The Beaver Island Historical Society is delighted to have acquired the Northern Islander newspaper. Our aim is to preserve and honor our history, deliver Island news, educate our readers, and provide endless smiles and memories.

We are committed to creating a new publication with an authentic vision and enthusiastic leadership team dedicated to producing relevant storytelling experiences for the community, by the community.

As a nonprofit organization, we can only succeed and thrive with your support. Please join this adventure and help the BIHS by telling your family and friends to subscribe **NOW** and make the paper an important part of your life!

To subscribe, mail in the form provided below, or visit beaverislandhistory.org/northern-islander

I'd love an annual subscription to the *Northern Islander*!

Subscription options:
☐ Regular Mail, no forwarding — $42
☐ First Class, with forwarding — $57

Feeling generous?
If you would like to support our paper at a higher level, we welcome your generosity! Please choose:

☐ $8.00 per issue with first class postage —$111.00
☐ $12.00 per issue with first class postage—$159.00

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____
State: _____ ZIP: _____
E-mail: _____

Payment options:
To pay by card, please visit northern-islander.com

☐ CASH
☐ CHECK - make payable to Northern Islander

I am a...

☐ New subscriber
☐ Former subscriber

Mail to:

Northern Islander
PO Box 295
Beaver Island, MI 49782